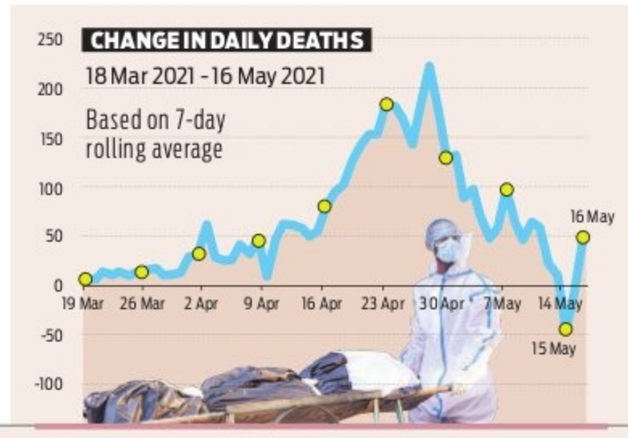
THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • WEDNESDAY • MAY 19, 2021 • ₹7.00 • PAGES 16 • LATE CITY EDITION



- CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA
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- MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY
- TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI
- DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR
- VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL
- TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM
- THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

Covid-19 mortality in India decelerating since April 28

M S SESHADRI & T JACOB JOHN

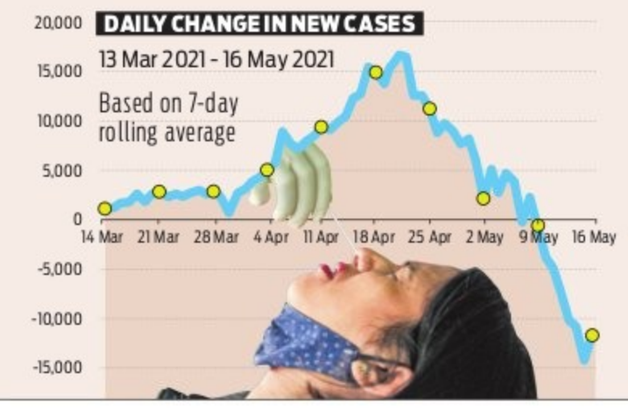
OUR momentum, acceleration and deceleration graph of the second wave of Covid-19 in India was carried in these columns on May 13. Using the same technique, we analysed the acceleration-deceleration of Covid-19 daily deaths (seven-day rolling average). The acceleration peak of mortality was on April 28, one week after the momentum peak of new cases on April 21. The numerical peak of mortality is imminent — hopefully within the next one week. The daily deaths will decrease thereafter and the requirement for oxygen, Remdesivir, ICU or/and ventilator beds in hospitals will progressively decrease in the coming weeks.

The one-week lag between peaks of the second wave momentum and mortality acceleration reflects the interval between case detection and death. If vulnerable patients get admitted early and on time, the interval would be ~ 3 weeks.

The short lag-time underscores the need to educate elderly and the vulnerable (those with diabetes, hypertension, chronic heart, lung, kidney or liver problems) to seek early medical attention for fever with cough/sore throat.

Since mortality acceleration peaks of states and districts will be asynchronous with the national data, they ought to analyse regional data using this technique to formulate regional policy decisions.

Full article on: newindianexpress.com



NATIONWIDE	MAY 17	MAY 18
Fresh cases	2,81,386	2,63,533
Recoveries	3,78,741	4,22,436
Deaths	4,106	4,329

JAB-O-METER

TAKE YOUR SHOT

May 17: 14,79,592 doses

May 18: 12,79,896 doses

TOTAL DOSES: 18,57,66,518

KARNATAKA	MAY 17	MAY 18
Active cases	6,03,639	5,75,028
Positivity rate	39.70%	32.50%
CFR	1.23%	1.73%

Navy personnel shifting three persons rescued from Barge-P305 by a Seaking helicopter for medical attention at INS Shikra in Mumbai | PTI

7 KILLED IN GUJ; 183 SAVED, 77 MISSING AS BARGE SINKS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mumbai/Delhi

AT least seven persons were reported killed in Gujarat as cyclone Tauktae tore into the state on Monday night and over 70 people were missing on the high sea after a barge sank 35 nautical miles off Mumbai.

Search and rescue operations by Navy and Coast Guard personnel managed to save 183 of the 261 onboard Barge P-305 that got de-anchored and toppled.

In all, 324 people in different barges had been rescued when reports last came in. Of them, 297 are safe in their vessels that had drifted off Gujarat coast.

Naval ships Beas, Betwa and Teg joined INS Kochi and Kolkata for the rescue operations for Barge P-305, said Commander Vivek Madhwal. P8I Reconnaissance Aircraft and naval helicopters were also deployed.

In another operation, a Navy Seaking helicopter was launched to rescue crew of GAL Constructor, which ran aground north of Mumbai. The copter rescued 35 GAL crew members. Of the 137 onboard GAL Constructor, all have been shifted to a secure location.

CONTINUED ON: P8

KARNATAKA ASKS PM FOR MORE VACCINES, OXYGEN

Increase in availability soon, says Modi, calls DCs 'field commanders'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa, other state ministers and officials at a video conference as Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacts with deputy commissioners and chiefs of municipal corporations, in Bengaluru on Tuesday | EXPRESS

DEPUTY commissioners and chiefs of municipal corporations of 17 districts in Karnataka were part of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's video conference on Tuesday. While the Prime Minister called on the deputy commissioners to exchange local technology, innovations that have proven effective in Covid management with each other, BBMP Chief Commissioner Gaurav Gupta, who gave a presentation, highlighted what the state has been doing at district, taluk and village levels.

"We requested additional oxygen and vaccine supplies, and he assured us that there will be an increase in availability soon. A discussion was held on vaccine supply and management, transport and administration of vaccines in rural areas, awareness and the medium required at the rural level etc," Gupta told the media after the meeting. Though CMs of states were present in the meeting, the Prime Minister limited his address to deputy commissioners, explaining that the original idea of the interaction was to converse directly with district authorities. Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa, along with Deputy Chief Minister Dr C N Ashwath Narayan, ministers Basavaraj Bommai and R Ashoka, was present during the video conference.

"The key to fight the pandemic is to create local containment zones, aggressive testing and giving correct, complete information to people. We have to pay a lot of attention to rural, remote regions in the Covid second wave. If you think any reform is needed in policy, you share the feedback without any inhibition," Modi told officials.

Terming deputy commissioners as 'field commanders', he said that efforts are being made to give states 15 days advance notice on vaccine schedule.

Sputnik V in B'luru by May-end

CHETANA BELAGERE @ Bengaluru

EVEN as the shortage of Covishield and Covaxin continues to hinder the vaccination programme in Karnataka, the much-awaited Russian vaccine, Sputnik V, will be available in Bengaluru by May-end or early June.

Dr Reddy's Laboratories (DRL) on Monday entered into an understanding with Apollo Hospitals to conduct a trial launch of Sputnik V across the country and the vaccine will be available at all Apollo Hospitals in Bengaluru. The cost will range between ₹1,200 and ₹1,250 per dose.

P4

Shailaja axed, Pinarayi kin in fresh team

B SREEJAN @ T'Puram

THE infusion of fresh blood into the new LDF government in Kerala would have been hailed as a political masterstroke had the CPM leadership shown a little prudence in granting legitimate exemptions and put in place checks to weed out nepotism in selection of ministers.

The decision of CPM state committee on Tuesday to replace all existing ministers with 10 fresh faces and one senior, who had served a term earlier, completed the generational shift the party had started by dropping all two-time MLAs during the candidate selection. The CPI, which also followed the norm, replaced all the four ministers with fresh faces.

On final count, 17 of the 21 ministers-designate are new faces. Along with Chief Minister **Pinarayi Vijayan**, JD(S) nominee K Krishnankutty and NCP nominee A K Saseendran had served term in the 2016 cabinet. CPM leader K Radhakrishnan had been a minister in the 1996 E K Nayanar government, besides serving as the Speaker during 2006-11.

However, the charm of the list which had talented leaders such as P Rajeeve and K N Balagopal, who had proved their parliamentary skills in the Rajya Sabha, and three women ministers — a first for Kerala — as ministers-designate was shadowed by the decision to exclude K K Shailaja.

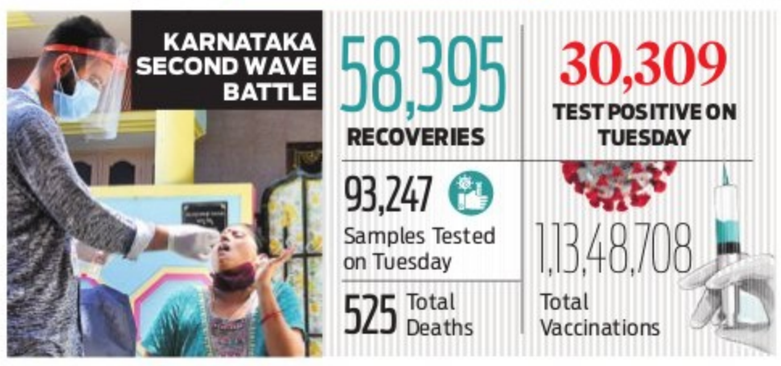
Being a central committee member and second only to Pinarayi in seniority in the party, Shailaja was supposed to be the No 2 in the new Cabinet. Her work as health minister which won laurels globally was all the more reason to make an exemption. But, the CPM state secretariat unanimously decided to apply a uniform scale to all.

The inclusion of first-time MLAs P A Mohammed Riyaz and R Bindu was also a surprise.

Riyaz is the husband of Pinarayi's daughter Veena T. Though the organisational profile of Riyaz – national DYFI president – is fit enough to find a place in a CPM cabinet, the party will have to face questions on conflict of interest.

P5

GLIMMER OF HOPE



At over 58,000 discharges, state tops list in country

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

KARNATAKA on Tuesday saw a whopping 58,395 Covid patients being discharged, which significantly brought down active cases across the state from over six lakh to 5,75,028.

While this is by far the highest number of discharges per day in the state, it is also the largest for any state in the country, with Maharashtra at number two at 52,898 discharges.

As a result, Karnataka's recovery rate jumped from 72.08 per cent on Monday to 73.68 per cent on Tuesday. The state's recovery rate has been improving consistently since May 8, except for two days on May 9 and 11, when it was lower than the previous day's percentage. Since May 12, the rate has improved on all consecutive days.

While active cases fell from 6,03,639 to 5.75 lakh across the state, it fell from 3,64,382 to 3,40,965 in Bengaluru.

The city's recovery rate, too, has been increasing over the last three days, and between May 16 and 18, it has moved from 64.71 per cent to 67.29 per cent.

Despite these encouraging figures, the mortality remained high with 525 patients reported dead on Tuesday, taking the state's Covid toll to 22,838, up from 22,313 on Monday. Tuesday's deaths are also the third-highest single-day deaths through the pandemic, the highest being 596 on May 10 and the second highest being 592 on May 7.

CONTINUED ON: P4

BJP, Cong youth wings slug it out over med supply

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE BJP Yuva Morcha from Bengaluru city has complained to the state drug controller that Karnataka Youth Congress president Raksha Ramaiah and other members are distributing medicines without prescription to Covid patients.

KPCC president D K Shivakumar termed the allegation a political conspiracy. BJP Yuva Morcha general secretary from Bengaluru Urban S M Vijendra said Raksha Ramaiah and other Congress members are distributing dexamethasone tablets to Covid patients without prescription. As per the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, it is a violation. "This should be investigated and misuse of the drug stopped," he said.

Raksha Ramaiah and Shivakumar said Congress will reply to the allegation at the right forum.

CONTINUED ON: P3

The BJP is trying to cook up a fake toolkit document. It is a very cleverly crafted document made to look authentic, but it is a forgery. We will file an FIR against Sambit Patra (BJP spokesman) who shared the fake documents first and JP Nadda as chief of the party. We will see them in court

Prof Rajeev Gowda,
Chairman, AICC Research Department

ALMANAC TODAY

Wednesday: 19/05/2021 • Year: Plava • Ayana: Uttharayana • Ritu: Vasantha • Masa: Vaishala • Paksha: Shukla • Tithi: Saptthami 7.24 am • Nakshatra: Ashlesa 10.58 am • Moon in Simha Rashi • Rahukaala: 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm • Gulikakala: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm • Yamaganda: 07:30 am to 09:00 am

WEATHER

MIN 22°C | MAX 28°C

FORECAST: Thunderstorms. Overcast

Sunrise 5.53 am | Sunset 6.39 pm | Moonrise 11.58 am | Moonset 12.11 pm

EXPERTS WARN

'Government still not augmenting oxy production'

Officials feel cases are coming down because testing has reduced considerably

BOSKY KHANNA @ Bengaluru

THE demand for oxygen is gradually reducing after the government started to rationalise its use, but work has not started on the ground to augment resources for worse days ahead, says experts and officials.

According to government records, 787.13 MT liquid oxygen was allotted on May 17, of which 262.57 MT has been given to Bengaluru.

The data also shows that as of May 17, of the 1,79,024 active cases in Bengaluru, 30,000 needed hospitalisation, while 250 needed oxygen support. It also calculated that the consumption of oxygen per patient per day at 8.33 litres per minute. On May 8, when demand for oxygen was at the peak, the number of active cases was 2,57,119, of which 39,585 were admitted to hospitals. Among them, 267 needed oxygen and the consumption per person was 6.74 litres per minute.

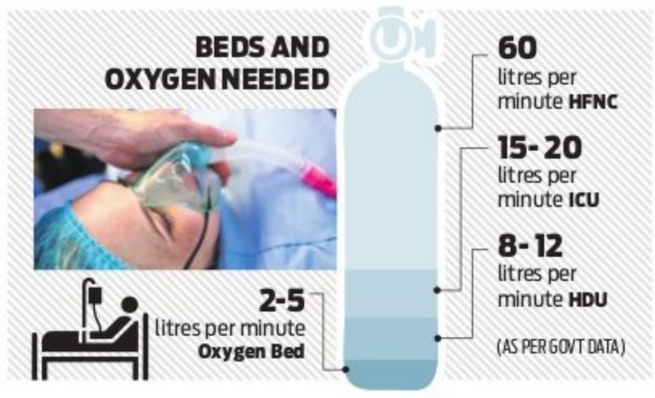
Interestingly, the data showed consumption per patient per day to be 12.90 litres per minute on May 8 and 12.14 litres per minute on May 17, as per the Union Government norms.

"When rationing started, the supply to patients improved. But the government has still not drawn up any roadmap for the worse days to come. The government has no ready data on the number of paediatric ICUs and total high flow nasal cannula (HFNC) beds in the city and state," said an official, seeking anonymity.

Officials pointed out that apart from rationalising the use of oxygen, the government removed HFNC beds from the list of admitting patients as, in such cases, the patient is to be given oxygen at 60 litres per minute. This helped in reducing the demand and wastage.

"The cases are not coming down, but testing is less. Also, going by the government's assumption that cases are reducing and demand for oxygen is reducing, they have still not prepared any plan to augment production and storage of oxygen for rough days ahead. There can't be knee-jerk reactions every time to handle a situation," an expert working closely with the government told The New Indian Express.

He also added that when testing increases and the unlock period starts, cases will shoot up. "With CCCs, stabilisation centres and step-down hospitals equipped with oxygen beds and even oxygen on wheels services available, the government needs to understand that oxygen in cylinders also has a shelf life," the expert stated.



Oxy concentrators, med equipment bulk of cargo at KIA

Over 50,000 kg of zeolite reaches KIA

Bengaluru: Four chartered flights from Rome, carrying a total of 50,575 kilograms of zeolite, a crucial component used in oxygen generation, reached Kempegowda International Airport, in the last two days. An airport source said, "The flights on Monday carried 34,200 kilograms of Zeolite while those that reached on Tuesday carried 16,375 kgs of it. All of them came in drums with each one accommodating 125 kgs of the mineral. " All are bound to Malur.

BALA CHAUHAN @ Bengaluru

OXYGEN concentrators are the main medical cargo that are currently being imported during the second wave of the pandemic. Customs officials at the Kempegowda International Airport here have cleared 12,000 imported oxygen concentrators between April 26 and May 16, said informed sources.

"The oxygen concentrators have been imported largely by private entities such as small hospitals, NGOs and individuals from several countries," said the sources. This apart, the Customs have cleared the import of 61,000 kg of Molecular Sieve (Zeolite) by Tata Advanced Systems Ltd between May 16 and 17 for the fabrication of Medical Oxygen Plants (MOPs) by the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO).

In a bid to fulfill the oxygen needs of Covid-19 patients, the DRDO has decided to set up 500 MOPSs across the country within three months under the PM-CARES fund. The premier R&D organisation has initiated fabrication of 380 MOPs with the release of supply orders to Tata Advanced Systems Ltd, Bengaluru for for 332 MOPs and to Trident Pneumatics Pvt Ltd, Coimbatore, for 48 of them, with a target of producing 125 plants per month.

Zeolite molecular sieves are used in industrial applications as highly efficient adsorbents for separation processes in gas or liquid phase. "Last year, soon after the pandemic broke out, there were huge consignments of personal protection equipment (PPE), masks, gloves, active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) to manufacture essential drugs for Covid-19 management, ventilators among other medical equipment which were being imported into India. This time, it's oxygen concentrators, ventilators and some number of humidifiers which are being imported from across the world.

People transporting an oxygen cylinder near Gandhi Nagar | SHRIRAM BN

> The oxygen concentrators have been imported largely by private entities such as small hospitals, NGOs and individuals from several countries
>
> Sources

Third-party application for school fee payment raises hackles of parents

PEARL MARIA D'SOUZA @ Bengaluru

WITH several schools set to start for the next academic year, parents are faced with a hurdle. Not only have they been receiving text messages reminding them to pay fees for the coming year, they are also finding it difficult to leave the current school without paying the complete fees in some cases. On the other hand, they are also unable to take these complaints formally to the education department.

Nanditha (name changed) a parent from a chain of CBSE schools in Whitefield, told TNIE that letters were written to the Block Education Officer and the Department of Public Instruction about the use of a third-party application for fees collection. However, the department refused to step in due to a court order.

She said parents had apprehensions because of an auto-debit option, as refund in case of mistakes would be a hassle. Besides, parents are also worried about confidential information about them and their children being shared with the platform, and consider it a breach of data. They said it was non-consensual. The app is also said to have collected card and bank details of the parents who were asked to pay Rs 1,000 additionally for the installments.

They said the school was not giving an option of NEFT or IMPS payment, which they considered safer.

Another parent said that the school refused to give an option of installments to those who did not avail the financial services of a third-party platform.

"Although parents wanted to complain to the department officials, several staffers are engaged in Covid duties and are not in their offices," said A B Suresh, a member of the Karnataka School Parents Forum.

Further, on the issue of fee payments, he said that some parents were also asked to pay up for IT (online based education) fees for the coming academic year to obtain their ward's transfer certificate.

Commissioner of Public Instruction Anbu Kumar told TNIE that the department is examining the Supreme Court order (about fee payment) and will act on accordingly.

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

> *Although parents wanted to complain to the department officials, several staffers are engaged in Covid duties and are not in their offices*
>
> A B Suresh, member of Karnataka School Parents Forum

Parents in hosp, kids & domestic help pull through

BALA CHAUHAN @ Bengaluru

WHEN a family tests positive for Covid, the biggest worry is of the children. The anxiety becomes doubly acute if they are small or with special needs. One such family in Bengaluru is recovering not just from Covid but also the trauma of a nightmarish experience, when the couple had to be hospitalised, leaving their two children, who had tested positive, at home with the live-in help, who also caught the infection.

Mini Dwivedi Gopinathan, well-known special educator and co-founder of PlayStreet Specially Abled Educare Trust, and her husband tested positive along with their 14-year-old son and two-year-old daughter. Their son is autistic.

She said her house was being remotely managed by her sister and sister-in-law. "Nobody could come home. No one could keep our children because they were Covid-positive. We tried hard for a home nurse, but couldn't get one. Our only worry was, what if the help also tests positive?" she said.

While food was not an issue, with neighbours and her relatives ensuring it was delivered on time, it was the physical care of the children that worsened their mental agony. On May 5, Mini's mother succumbed to a massive heart attack in Delhi. "Doctors advised my family not to break the news to me, because I was critical," she said.

On May 9, when she returned home, her son pulled her mask down and kissed her. "He likes to hug and kiss us. It is our communication. My daughter came running, and I held her close," said Mini.

RESCUE ACT

Cops help German man return home

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

CITY police helped a 38-year-old German national, suffering from schizophrenia, return home. Rodrigo Anft arrived in India in November 2019 and his visa expired in November 2020. However, he overstayed in the city. In April, the residents of Sampangirama Nagar reported a foreigner's violent behavior and police rushed to the spot. Police Sub-Inspector Basavaraj Talikoti and his team pacified Anft and arranged for his stay at a lodge.

"His documents revealed he was schizophrenic and his visa had expired. We wrote to the German consulate general in the city. After verifying his details, they wrote us back that Anft needed to see a doctor at a private hospital. However, we admitted him in NIMHANS from May 1 to May 3. The consulate officials contacted Anft's family in Germany. They booked a flight from Bengaluru on May 4," police said.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

19th May: Science can do amazing things in space. We are now ready to send spaceships to the furthest planets without using any fuel. Here's how it works. The spacecraft unfurls enormous sails which then pick up the atoms which fly out of the Moon at enormous speeds. These then push the sails along, the sails carry the ship, and the ship voyages into outer space!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20) If you take the law into your own hands you might receive a surprise - or a shock. In fact, it's probably best to devote yourself to placating other people today, for you have no idea what secret feelings they are harbouring! Be your normal considerate self!

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21) You should take any delays or frustrations in your stride, for today is one of those moments when it's best to carry on with the job in hand without expecting marvellous results or a dramatic leap into the unknown. You'll get your reward - but perhaps not yet.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) Your stars look profitable and prosperous, so you'll very soon be coming up with a whole series of ideas on how to make some spare cash. That's stage one. Stage two, which is much more difficult, is to work out how you're going to put the theory into practice.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) There are still one or two things you should keep to yourself, and your views on an emotional matter should go unspoken for a little while longer. However where once you found it so awkward to express yourself, you will soon have no difficulty.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23) You are by your nature often far too open and honest, sometimes for your own good. Yet for the next fortnight at least you will be keeping certain truths to yourself. There is nothing wrong with secrets just as long as you have absolutely no intention to mislead.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23) You should balance the books - the emotional ones as well as the financial! It now looks as if an account has to be settled and a debt repaid before personal relationships can take a further step. It may be that you need not cash rewards, but acknowledgement for all your efforts.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23) Perfection is in the air, and you may enjoy any ray of light and every glimmer of hope which comes your way. If you should touch the clouds, however, do remember that the only thing which is permanent is change. You don't want to come down to earth with too much of a bump!

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Business and work planets are ideally poised to bring rewards, albeit slight ones, for all the hard effort you've put in. If somebody you trust makes a suitable offer then you may now take it, rather than waiting for something much better to come along.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22) In no circumstances should you try to turn the clock back. It can be tempting to imagine that the past was preferable to the present, even for you, but do understand now that the future looks bright. You may expand your social circle and make new friends.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20) You should set the wheels in motion and get personal initiatives under way. You may also have to pay extra attention to partners' ideas over the next two to four weeks, and you can now set the pace by extending invitations to like-minded friends and colleagues.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19) There are certain periods in the year when the planets send out powerful messages, indicating that you are at a turning-point. This is one such time, which means that all decisions should be made with great care, for you may not be able to change them later on.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20) You may never have meditated in your life, but today is a perfect moment to start. There is, you see, a pure and perfect alignment of planets pointing to a sector of your chart symbolising mystical aspirations, dreams and the unconscious. The answers may lie within!

THE PHANTOM

HI AND LOIS

BEETLE BAILEY

BLONDIE

LOCKHORNS

DENNIS THE MENACE

SU DO KU

Hard: Test your number crunching skills with our unique puzzle

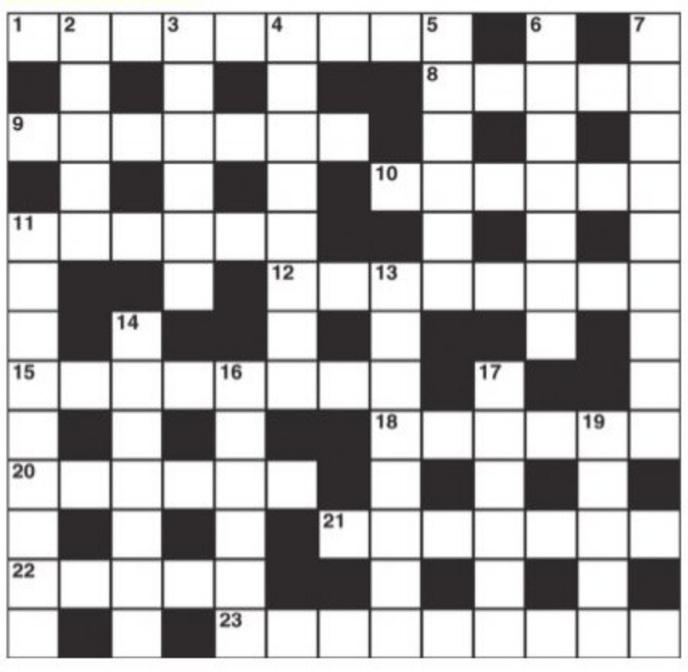
Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.

		5						3
				8	5	4		
	6		1				5	
			3	1	7		4	6
	1						9	
7	3		4	9	8			
	4				1		8	
		9	8	6				
8						2		

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

3	8	5	4	2	7	1	9	6
9	7	4	6	1	5	2	8	3
1	2	6	8	3	9	5	7	4
6	9	2	5	7	3	8	4	1
4	1	7	2	8	6	9	3	5
5	3	8	1	9	4	6	2	7
8	5	9	3	4	1	7	6	2
7	4	1	9	6	2	3	5	8
2	6	3	7	5	8	4	1	9

CROSS WORD



ACROSS

1 Signed agreement wearing a false smile (9)
8 Assimilate facts from clear notes (5)
9 The conqueror shows resolve an hour after midnight (7)
10 Calif's worried about revenue (6)
11 It comes between opposing sides (6)
12 Hip seams split by stress (8)
15 Tax or cheat (8)
18 Make oneself fearfully small (6)
20 Cow catcher (6)
21 Girl Virginia left beside the lake (7)
22 Plague with drinks we hear (5)
23 A golden ruler (9)

DOWN

2 Green? Might be a vine (5)
3 Join a silent order (6)
4 A cross section of the church (8)
5 Be mischievous, switch the file and remain quiet (6)
6 Right-wing extremist is twisting facts around (7)
7 A fold in an envelope (9)
11 Be hesitant, empty and sick at heart (9)
13 Obtain a foothold (8)
14 Gins set up an intrepid fighter (7)
16 Passed shuffled cards (6)
17 It features two banks in a row (6)
19 About to be sold as a concern may be (5)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Affable, 4 Group, 7 Icon, 8 Dinosaur, 10 Up to a point, 12 Menace, 13 Awaits, 15 Bitter blow, 18 Made good, 19 Mike, 20 Mason, 21 Salient.

Down: 1 Adieu, 2 Floating, 3 Editor, 4 Groundwork, 5 Oval, 6 Parties, 9 Catching on, 11 Hillside, 12 Maximum, 14 Strops, 16 Wheat, 17 Odes.

JUMBLE By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GVARE

HVOSE

USONIC

VLAYLE

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon

Answer here:

ANSWERS TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S: **Jumbles:** GROWL THUMP EYEFUL ABOUND

ANSWER: The excavation for their new home's foundation was done, and they liked it — A "HOLE" LOT

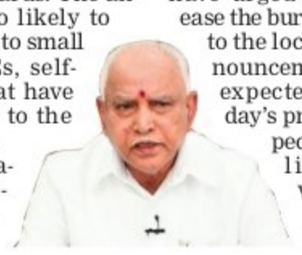
State mulls fiscal aid package for poor

Relief for autorickshaw and cab drivers, farmers and hawkers on the cards, say sources

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

WITH an extension of the existing lockdown becoming inevitable as cases continue to surge, the Karnataka government may announce an economic relief package for vulnerable sections.

Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa has called for a press meet on Wednesday morning to make an important announcement, and sources in the government suggest a financial aid package for auto and cab drivers, farmers and hawkers is on the cards. The announcement is also likely to provide some relief to small businesses, MSMEs, self-help groups etc, that have suffered losses due to the stringent lockdown.



Various organisations have been demanding an economic relief package, and opposition parties like the Congress and JDS, too, have urged the government to ease the burden on people hit due to the lockdown. While an announcement on lockdown is expected shortly, Wednesday's press conference is expected to bring some relief to the most vulnerable and poor sections of citizens.

Karnataka was one of the first State governments to announce an economic relief package during the first wave of Covid-19 last year. Yediyurappa had announced financial assistance to farmers, auto and cab drivers, barbers, washermen etc, even before the Union government had announced an economic relief package. The state had also approved power subsidies for industries, MSMEs and reduced tariffs for common citizens.

BJP's allegation far from reality, says Raksha

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"THE medicine is being given on doctors' prescription. Raksha is from a family which runs a prestigious hospital. Even Chief Minister Yediyurappa visits that hospital," Shivakumar said.

Raksha said the allegation is far from reality, and the BJP is complaining as they don't want Congress to work from the front. "Medicines are being distributed as per doctors' prescription. In fact, we have given contact numbers of doctors, whom patients can contact directly," he added. He said, "The medicine kit being distributed by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike too has steroids. They are not finding any mistake in that. Why complain only against us?"

Cong to take BJP to court over toolkit 'forgery'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

CHAIRMAN of All India Congress Committee's research department **Prof Rajeev Gowda** on Tuesday called the BJP's attempt to accuse the Congress of preparing a toolkit to exploit the Covid pandemic "forgery" and "cooked up".

Prof Gowda told *The New Indian Express* that legal action will be initiated against BJP leaders, including National President JP Nadda, for forgery and misusing the Congress symbol to create fake documents.

"In an attempt to divert people's attention from its extraordinary failure and mismanagement of the Covid-19 pandemic, the BJP is trying to cook up a fake toolkit document. Anyone reading that will laugh at them. It is a very cleverly crafted document made to look authentic, but it is forgery. We will file an FIR against Sambit Patra, who shared the fake documents first, and JP Nadda as chief of the party. We will see them in court," Gowda said.

He was reacting to allegations from BJP leaders who claimed to have exposed the Congress' intent to exploit the pandemic situation to defame the country and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. BJP leaders, including Union ministers, national office-bearers, MPs and MLAs shared documents purportedly belonging to the AICC research team, listing out ways to target the government and Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the pandemic management on their social media pages, and claimed it was a toolkit used to defame the country.

EXPRESS READ

Vijayendra visits temples amidst Covid crisis

Mysuru: With CM B S Yediyurappa and his government coming under fire over the Covid crisis, his son and BJP state V-P B Y Vijayendra has embarked on temple visits. Along by his wife, he visited Mahadeva Thatta Gadege at Sangama in Hullahalli and Srikanteshwara Temple in Nanjangud, drawing flak from the public

Help us set up hospitals, Savadi tells Rajnath

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Belagavi

CLOSE on the heels of initiatives taken by DRDO to set up exclusive Covid hospitals in Delhi, Lucknow, Varanasi and Ahmedabad, Deputy Chief Minister Laxman Savadi has written to Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, requesting him to help establish similar Covid hospitals in Bengaluru and Belagavi in Karnataka.

Rajnath Singh

In his letter to Singh, Savadi said hospitals in Karnataka were under tremendous pressure and burdened with a high number of Covid cases.

"I would like to humbly request you to consider setting up similar Covid Care Centres in Karnataka with the help of the Ministry of Defence/DRDO,'" he added.

He said the Defence authorities have a large land bank in both Bengaluru and Belagavi, which would make it easier for them to set up Covid Care Centres. Setting up of Covid centres in Bengaluru and Belagavi will not only help patients in the region but further ease pressure on existing hospitals and medical professionals in the state, he said.

MURMURS OF DISSENT

Jindal land row takes legal turn, activist sends notice to CM, council of ministers

BANSY KALAPPA @Bengaluru

BENGALURU-based activist K Paul Arunagiri has sent a legal notice through his advocate, S Dore Raju, to Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa and his council of ministers, challenging the grant of 3,667 acres of land in Toranagallu, Sandur, in Vijayanagar district, to the Jindal Group.

Dore Raju, who had served as state public prosecutor under Yediyurappa in 2008, has also filed a PIL before the high court on the issue. Arunagiri has called for the government to cancel the April 27 cabinet decision to sell the land at a "throwaway price" of Rs 1.22 lakh per acre. The parcel of land lies in mineral-rich Vijayanagar district, newly carved out of erstwhile Ballari district. The notice follows resistance from within the party fold, with several leaders voicing their protest against the sale.

Party's Chief Whip in the Assembly, Sunil Kumar, has made his displeasure known to the central leadership in Delhi. He told *TNIE*, "I am not aware how we have changed our stand on an issue which we had opposed in the past. No one has addressed the issue at the party forum or legislature party forum, so I am of the 'original' party view that we should not sell this land. I am curious how our party, which opposed the sale, has now changed its stand."

> **No one has addressed the issue at the party forum or legislature party forum, so I am of the 'original' party view that we should not sell this land.**
>
> Sunil Kumar, BJP Chief Whip in Assembly

Experts said the land is worth about Rs 4,000 crore, but was being sold for a mere Rs 44 crore, or just one-hundredth of the market value.

A goup of MLAs, comprising Uday Garudachar, Poornima Krishnappa, Arvind Bellad and Basanagouda P Yatnal had also written to the central leadership three weeks ago, expressing their displeasure. Highly-placed sources told *TNIE* that CM Yediyurappa had personally called up Chickpet MLA Uday Garudachar and sought an explanation. Garudachar had reportedly replied that he would not have objected if the land had been given to someone from the state. The CM had said the firm had done a great deal for Karnataka.

HELPLINE

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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7 AM - 4 PM MONDAY to SATURDAY

CAUTION PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that **M/s. Golden Gate Properties Limited and M/s. Prisha Properties India Private Limited** have jointly filed an original suit in respect of the **Suit Schedule Property viz., Landed property in Sy.Nos. 5, 6 and 7 of Chikkabanahalli Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru - 560 067 forming one composite and compact block of lands totally measuring 19 acres ("subject land")** against **Mr. Basavaraju, S/o. Late Basappa and Mr. B. Umashankar, S/o. Late Basappa,** both residing at Chikkabanahalli, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru - 560 067, seeking for a decree of Specific Performance of the Terms Sheet dated 22-03-2014, Supplementary Term Sheet dated 29-07-2015 and Supplementary Term Sheet dated 11-12-2015. The said original suit is pending on the file of the Court of the 4th Additional Senior Civil Judge, Bengaluru Rural District at Bengaluru vide **O.S.No.412/2021**. We have been informed that the owners viz., Mr. Basavaraju and Mr. B. Umashankar are now making efforts to create third party rights in respect of the subject land.

The general public are hereby cautioned that there is civil suit in **O.S.No.412/2021** pending in respect of the subject land and any person/entity entering into any sort of agreement, understating or transaction in respect of the subject land with the Owners are hereby put on notice regarding the pending civil suit in **O.S.No.412/2021** and any such agreement, understating or transaction entered in respect of the subject land will not be binding on the M/s. Golden Gate Properties Limited and M/s. Prisha Properties India Private Limited.

Sd/-
M/s. Golden Gate Properties Limited & M/s. Prisha Properties India Private Limited
Office at No.820, Golden House, 80 Feet Road, 8th Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru-560 095
Contact details : +91 98451 29822

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government Of India Undertaking)

Viswaneedam Branch (E-Syndicate Bank)
Magadi Main Road, Viswaneedam,
Anjana Nagar, Sunkadakatte, Bangalore-1
E-Mail: cb10450@canarabank.com

DEMAND NOTICE [SECTION 13(2)]
TO BORROWER/ GUARANTOR/MORTGAGOR

NOTICE ISSUED UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002

'We, **Canara Bank, (E-Syndicate Bank) Viswaneedam Branch** had issued Demand Notices under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Security Interest Act 2002 by Registered Post with Acknowledgment Due (RPAD) to the addresses furnished to the Bank as mentioned below. Since the notice has not been acknowledgement returned due to non-availability of addressees at the said addresses / due to evading of service of the notices sent by RPAD, notice could not be served. Further, Bank had served the said demand notices by affixture at the addresses given. The contents of the said notices are mentioned herein below.

Name and Address of the Borrower / Co-Borrower / Mortgagor / Guarantor : 1) Mrs Anuradha, W/o Mr Srinivas. M .S. No. 1083, 3rd Block, Visweswaraiaih Layout, Bangalore-51. **2) Mr. Srinivas. M .S.** S/o M T Siddaiah, No. 1083, 3rd Block, Visweswaraiaih Layout, Bangalore-51.

[Details of the credit facility/ies availed by the Borrower]

Loan No.	Nature of Loan/Limit	Date of Sanction	Amount	Liability With Interest As On Date 05.04.2021	Rate Of Interest
4501400 000652	SOD	02/01/2017	Rs. 25,00,000	Rs. 27,08,454/-	12.50%
4509740 000084	HL	05/05/2018	Rs. 72,00,000	Rs. 78,76,550.49/-	9.85%

Total Liability Amont: Rs.1,05,85,004.49 (Rupees One Crore Five Lakhs Eighty Five Thousand Four and Paise Forty Nine Only) with further cost and charges and incidental expenses and costs

NPA Date : 30.03.2021 **Demand Notice Dated : 06.04.2021**

Details of security assets: Name of Title Holder : S. Anuradha

Immovable Properties: All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing site No 1083 formed by BDA situated at 3rd block, Sir M Viswwshwara Layout, Bangalore measuring East To West 9 Mtrs And North To South 12 Metres In Total 108 Sq Mtres And Bounded on As Follows, East By : Site No 1084, West By: Site No 1082, North By : Site No 1093, South : Road

You are here by called upon to pay **Canara Bank,** within a period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, the respective amount mentioned here above, failing which **Canara Bank** will take necessary action under the provisions of the said Act, against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the Borrowers and the Guarantors. The powers available to **Canara Bank** under the Act include (i) power to take possession of the secured assets of the Borrower / Guarantors / Mortgager including the rights to transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale for realising secured assets and any transfer of secured assets by **Canara Bank** shall vest in the transferee rights in or in relation to, the secured asset transferred as if the transfer has been made by you. In terms of the provisions of section 13(13) of the said Act, you are hereby prohibited from transferring, either by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of your business), any of the secured assets as referred to in the Demand Notice affixed and also Hypothecated / Mortgaged to the bank without prior written consent of the Bank. The notice is issued in terms of Section (13)2 of the said Act.

Date : 18.05.2021 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place : Bangalore **Canara Bank (E-Syndicate Bank)**

PUBLIC NOTICE

ICICI Bank

Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, Landmark Building, 4th Floor, 228A, AJC Bose Road, Kolkata 700020
CIN No: L65190GJ1994PLC021012, www.icicibank.com

The following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	J Ravi Kumar/ Pushpa Gopal/ 131 13th Cross 10th Main Road Mt Layout 2nd Cross, Malleshwaram Malleshwaram Karnataka Bangalore- 560003/ LBBBS00003646675	Flat- C 308, 3rd Floor, officers Enclave over Plot No 89 Khata No. 82/23, Plot No. 87 And 88 Khata No. 82/14, Mouza Damodarpur, Tahasil- Jatni, P.S. Khandagiri, District- Khurda and By Virtue of General Power of Attorney over Plot No. 246/608 of Khata No. 222/114, Plot No. 247/621, Khata No. 222/158 of Mouza- Suanga Tahasil- Jatni, P.S. Khandagiri, District- Khurda And Plot No. 86 of Khata No. 18, Plot No. 83 of Khata No. 82/4, Plot No. 91, 93, 94 & 95 of Khata No. 78, Plot No. 90 of Khata No.39 Mouza Damodarpur, Tahasil- Jatni, P.S. Khandagiri, District- Khurda in the Development Plan of Bda Bhubaneswar Orissa Bhubaneshwar, Admeasuring an area of Land Measuring 476 Sq. Ft. Flat Measuring Super Built Up area 1600 Sq. Ft. Together With Proportionate and Impartible Share in Land	24.03.2021 Rs. 29,09,338/-	31.08. 2020

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above borrower/s and/or their guarantors (as applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice else further steps will be taken as per the provisions of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Date : May 19, 2021 **Authorized Officer**
Place: Bangalore **ICICI Bank Limited**

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA UNDERTAKING)

ARM Branch– II,
2nd Floor, Circle Office, Spencer Towers, No.86,
M G Road, Bengaluru-560001, Ph: 080-25310065
e-mail : cb6298@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

1. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged /charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the RO, DRT, Bangalore will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **10/06/2021** from 10.30 A.M. to 11.30 A.M,, for recovery of **Rs.4,96,22,203/-** (Rupees four crores ninety six lakhs twenty two thousand two hundred and three only) including costs and interest as on 31.01.2020 together with further interest, costs, expenses till realization as per Recovery Certificate no.14248 in O.A. No. 1274/2017 issued by the Presiding Officer, Debt Recovery Tribunal, Bangalore dated 14.08.2018 from **M/s.Gananatha Packaging Industry & others.**
The reserve price will be **Rs.163.00 Lakhs** and the earnest money deposit will be **Rs.16,30,000/-.**
The Earnest Money Deposit shall be deposited on or before **08/06/2021 - 5.00 pm.**
Details and full description of the property: 1. All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Sy. No. 273/2, situated at Attibele Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru urban District measuring 0-01.1 Guntas out of 0-03.3 Guntas and bounded on the East by Remaining Portion of the same Land bearing Survey number, West by Land bearing same Survey number belongs to R Krishnappa now belongs to Smt.Meera Nagesh Mallya & Sri.Nagesh Mallya, North by Land belongs to Narayanappa and South by: 15 feet wide Road.
2.All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Sy. No. 273/2, situated at Attibele Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru urban District measuring 0-01.65 Guntas out of 0-01.17 and 0-01 Guntas and bounded on East by Remaining portion of the same land bearing Survey number earlier belongs to Smt.Gowramma now belongs to Smt.Meera Nagesh Mallya & Sri.Nagesh Mallya, West by Land belongs to Srinivasa Reddy & 15 feet wide Road, North by Land belongs to children of Late Sri B K Shamanna and South by 15 Feet wide Road & Property of Srinivasa Reddy.
Item no. no.1 &2 residential converted lands put together (land bearing Survey no 273/2 situated at Attibele Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal taluk, Bengaluru Urban district) totally measuring 2994.75 Square feet and about 10500 square feet of super built up area.

2. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged /charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the RO, DRT, Bangalore will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and " Whatever there is" on **10/06/2021** from 10.30 A.M. to 11.30 A.M, for recovery of **Rs.2,24,72,124/-** (Rupees two crores twenty four lakhs seventy two thousand one hundred and twenty four only) including costs and interest as on 31.01.2020 together with further interest, costs, expenses till realization as per Recovery Certificate no.14250 in O.A. No. 1218/2017 issued by the Presiding Officer, Debt Recovery Tribunal, Bangalore, dated 14.08.2018 from **M/s.Wisdom Packers & others.**
Item 1 property: The reserve price will be **Rs.51.50 Lakhs** and the earnest money deposit will be **Rs.5,15,000/-** and
Item 2 property: the reserve price will be **Rs.29.25 Lakhs** and the earnest money deposit will be **Rs.2,92,500/-** The Earnest Money Deposit shall be deposited on or before **08/06/2021 - 5.00 pm.**
Details and full description of the property: Item no.1: All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Sy. No. 273/2, present VP Khatha No. 2436/9, Site no. 9, situated at Attibele Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru measuring East to West 40 feet, North to South 30 feet and bounded on the East by Property belongs to Kanthamma, West by : Property bearing site no.8, North by Road, South by Property belonging to Sadashivamurthy C G.
Item no.2: Schedule – A - All that piece and parcel of the Property measuring 1 acre 13 guntas in land bearing Sy. No. 103/1 & 103/2, both situated in Chandapura Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, duly converted from Agriculture nature to Non-Agriculture Residential purpose vide order of Deputy Commissioner, Bangaluru District, Bengaluru bearing no. B.DIS/ALN(A)/SR/214/2004-05 dated 16/12/2004 and bearing Khatha No.1984/994 in records of Chandapura Village panchayat and bounded on East by Property belongs to Sri Reddy Eranna, West by Property belongs to Sri Y Munireddy, North by Road, South by Property belonging to Sri Pilla Reddy.
Schedule – B (Flat put up for sale) - All that piece and parcel of the Flat bearing No. G-27, Ground Floor, "Nisarga Keerthana" formed in land bearing Sy. No. 103/1 & 103/2, both situated in Chandapura Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangaluru Rural District measuring 1399 Square feet of super built up area along with 442 square feet of undivided share and one covered Car Parking in Basement floor and bounded on the East by Flat Bearing No. G -26, West by Open Space, North by Flat Bearing No. G -28, South by Open Space.

EMD amount of 10% of the Reserve Price is to be deposited by way of DD favouring Authorised officer, Canara Bank, ARM Branch II, Bangalore OR through online (RTGS/NEFT/Fund Transfer) to credit the account number 7952296000001, Canara Bank, ARM Branch II, Bangalore RTGS/NEFT CODE CNRB0006298 on or before **08.06.2021 at 5.00pm.**
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in https://www.canarabank.com/english/announcements/sale-notice/karnataka/ provided on the Secured Creditors' Website i.e www.canarabank.com. or may contact **Chief Manager, ARM Branch II Bangalore, Ph. No. 9483544116, 080-25310065**, during office hours on any working day.OR the service provider M/s.Canbank Computer Services Ltd, Bangalore - e- mail: **eauction@ccsl.co.in** Contact Persons & Numbers:- Mr. Pakhare DD/ Mr.Ramesh T H – 9480691777 & 8553643144.

Sd/-
Place: Bangalore
Date: 17.05.2021
Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sri. Bhawarlal, Smt.Pushpa Devi, Sri.Kapil Kumar, Sri. Rahul Kumar & Sri. Sonu Kumar seeking loan from State Bank of India, Commercial Branch, Bengaluru branch, representing that
1) Dt:26-05-1952 Sale Deed bearing document No.705/1952-53 in Book-I, Volume 1186 at pages 191 to 195.
2) Dt:21-07-1952 Khatha Endorsement bearing No.8. MTR 39/52-53/B8 MTR 11/52-53,
3) 24-06-1954 Partition Deed bearing document No.975/54-55, Book-I, Volume No.1346, at Pages 216 to 219,
4) 29-11-1954 Khatha Endorsement bearing No. B 8 KTR 77/54-55.
5) 29-09-1962 Notice of assessment of Khatha bearing No.B 8 PR 246/62-63, assigning new Khata No.21/1.
6) 16-02-1982 Death Certificate of C.G.Narayanswamy Naidu,
7) 28-09-1993 Death Certificate of Smt. Shankaramma
8) 07-07-1989 Khata Certificate issued by Corporation of the city of Bangalore in the name of Sri. C.N.Govinda Raju
9) 29-04-1993 Tax Paid Receipt for the year 1993-94
relating to the schedule property were laminated notice hereby given to general public calling upon them, they have intends to create a charge viz, mortgage or otherwise, on basis of laminated original titled deed and they wishes to create charge for availing a loan/credit facility from State Bank of India, Commercial Branch, Bengaluru, incase any party has any claim towards the said relevant property, the same should be lodged with the intending party and also with the above stated branch of state bank of India within **15 days** from publication of this notice from this day failing which mortgage will be created for the loan amount.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the premises bearing Corporation No.21 and 21/1 and Portion of Property bearing No.20(Old No.7), Market Road, Basavangudi, Bengaluru, in all measuring East to West on the Northern side 86 feet 6 inches, on the southern side 76 feet 6 inches and North to South on the Eastern side 46 feet 8 inches, on the Western side 31 feet plus 15 feet 8 inches with offset of 10 feet. East to West from the North-South corner & same is bounded by:
East by : Market Road, **West by :** Private Property **North by :** Private Property, **South by :** Private Property

State Bank of India, Commercial Branch, Krishi Bhavan, Bengaluru-560001.

QuoteExpress

BE KIND WHENEVER POSSIBLE. IT IS ALWAYS POSSIBLE

DALAI LAMA

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government Of India Undertaking)

Vivekananda Nagar Branch, (1702)
No.58, Sanjeevappa Layout, Jai Bharath Nagar,
Banaswadi Road, Bangalore 560033
Phone No: 25497222, email : cb1702@canarabank.com

DEMAND NOTICE [SECTION 13(2)]
TO BORROWER/ GUARANTOR/MORTGAGOR

NOTICE ISSUED UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002

'We, **Canara Bank, Vivekananda Nagar Branch, (1702)** had issued Demand Notices under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Security Interest Act 2002 by Registered Post with Acknowledgment Due (RPAD) to the addresses furnished to the Bank as mentioned below. Since the notice has not been acknowledgement returned due to non-availability of addressees at the said addresses / due to evading of service of the notices sent by RPAD, notice could not be served. Further, Bank had served the said demand notices by affixture at the addresses given. The contents of the said notices are mentioned herein below.

Name and Address of the Borrower / Co-Borrower / Mortgagor / Guarantor : Sunshine Enterprises, Proprietor- Mr Bhaskar Vijayakumar, No 310, 9th Main, Nagendra Block , Banashankari, Bengaluru 560050.

[Details of the credit facility/ies availed by the Borrower]

Loan No.	Nature of Loan/Limit	Date of Sanction	Amount	Liability With Interest As On Date	Rate Of Interest
1702256 005240	OD SECURED	05/10/2020	Rs 40,00,000/-	Rs. 40,27,858.62	9.15%

Total Liability Amont: Rs.40,27,858.62 (Rupees Forty Lakh Twenty Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Eight And Paise Sixty Two Only) with further cost and charges and incidental expenses and costs

NPA Date :02.05.2021 **Demand Notice Dated : 04.05.2021**

Details of security assets: Name of Title Holder : Bhaskar S/o Rajashekaraiah @Vijayakumar: Immovable Properties: Memorandum Of Deposit Of Title Deeds No 3675/2020-21 Dated 01/10/2020. Site No 11 , New BBMP Khatha No. 26/30/11, Situated At Valagerahalli Village, Kengeri, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore 560056 **Extent-1530 Sqft Valuation Of Property Dt 02/10/2020 - Rs 1,04,80,000/- (Rupees One Crore Four Lakh Eighty Thousand Only)**

You are here by called upon to pay **Canara Bank,** within a period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, the respective amount mentioned here above, failing which **Canara Bank** will take necessary action under the provisions of the said Act, against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the Borrowers and the Guarantors. The powers available to **Canara Bank** under the Act include (i) power to take possession of the secured assets of the Borrower / Guarantors / Mortgager including the rights to transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale for realising secured assets and any transfer of secured assets by **Canara Bank** shall vest in the transferee rights in or in relation to, the secured asset transferred as if the transfer has been made by you. In terms of the provisions of section 13(13) of the said Act, you are hereby prohibited from transferring, either by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of your business), any of the secured assets as referred to in the Demand Notice affixed and also Hypothecated / Mortgaged to the bank without prior written consent of the Bank. The notice is issued in terms of Section (13)2 of the said Act.

Date : 18.05.2021 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place : Bangalore **Canara Bank**

QuoteExpress **DON'T WATCH THE CLOCK; DO WHAT IT DOES. KEEP GOING** SAM LEVENSON

OPPORTUNITIES

General

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR CELL SCIENCE, (NCCS) PUNE
(An Autonomous Institution of the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India.)
Savitribai Phule Pune University Campus, Pune – 411007.

Advt.No.- NCCS/PMC/P-04/Online/2021
SUB: APPLICATIONS FOR PROJECT POSITIONS UNDER EXTRA-MURAL PROJECTS.

Applications are invited for different project posts to be filled purely on temporary basis at NCCS under extramural projects.

For the detailed specifications of the posts, the prescribed application format and other terms and conditions; please see our **Advt.No.NCCS/PMC/P04/Online/2021** under **Project Positions** in **Careers** tab on our website (www.nccs.res.in). For any updates please check our website. (Marathi & Hindi version of this advertisement is available on our website)

Director, NCCS

TICEL BIO PARK LTD.
(TIDCO Centre for Life Sciences)
CIN: U45309TN2001PLC047979

TICEL INVITES APPLICATIONS AT CHENNAI & COIMBATORE (OPEN TO ALL GENDERS) FOR THE FOLLOWING POSTS

Post	Qualification	Experience	Upper Age Limit (as on 31.5.2021)	Salary per month (Scale / consolidated)
Admin. Cum Marketing Manager on Contract basis at Coimbatore	Any Degree with MBA - Marketing (Full Time)	7 years post-qualification experience in marketing of business space & co-ordination with Clients and Service Providers. Out of which, 3 years experience in Marketing Commercial / IT Parks space.	35 years	₹ 50,000/-
Marketing Manager Cum Facility Manager on Contract basis at Chennai	Any Degree with MBA - Marketing (Full Time)	7 years post-qualification experience in marketing of business space & co-ordination with Clients and Service Providers. Out of which, 3 years experience in Marketing Commercial / IT Parks space.	40 years	₹ 50,000/-

The above posts are on contract basis. The eligible candidates may send their resume within 15 days to:

THE MANAGING DIRECTOR
TICEL BIO PARK LTD. CSIR Road, Taramani, Chennai – 600 113, Tel.: 044 – 22542060
Email: md@ticelbiopark.com : Website: www.ticelbiopark.com

DIPR/435/Display/2021

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

COVID-19

04 BENGALURU WEDNESDAY 19.05.2021

TRACKING COVID-19

SPEED AND RISE OF COVID-19 CASES IN KARNATAKA

30,309 CASES REPORTED TODAY

38,603 CASES REPORTED YESTERDAY

TALLY STANDS AT

TODAY 22,72,374

YESTERDAY 22,42,065

DEATHS

TODAY 525 | YESTERDAY 476

DISCHARGES

TODAY 58,395 | YESTERDAY 34,635

ACTIVE CASES

TODAY 5,75,028

YESTERDAY 6,03,639

POSITIVITY RATE

TODAY 8.09%

YESTERDAY 8.01%

MORTALITY RATE

TODAY 1.00%

YESTERDAY 0.99%

RECOVERY RATE

TODAY 73.68%

YESTERDAY 72.08%

The first Covid-19 case in Karnataka was reported on March 8, 2020. Since then until May 18, 2021, a total of 22,72,374 cases have been reported in 1 year and 68 days...

1,13,48,708 Total doses administered in state

VACCINATION DRIVE STATUS

Number of people completing vaccination	25,30,724
Health care workers 1st dose	7,01,194
Health care workers 2nd dose	4,61,838
Frontline workers 1st dose	4,99,022
Frontline workers 2nd dose	1,96,187
Age 18-45 1st dose	1,22,270
Above 45 1st dose	74,95,498
Above 45 2nd dose	18,72,699

DISTRICT-WISE COVID CASES LAST 24 HOURS

8,676 BENGALURU URBAN

1,339 BENGALURU RURAL

Bagalakot: 295	Chamarajanagar: 345	Dakshina Kannada: 777	Hassan: 834	Kolar: 1,021	Raichur: 493	Udupi: 737
Ballari: 1,799	Chikkaballapur: 339	Davanagere: 594	Haveri: 187	Koppal: 523	Ramanagara: 427	Uttara Kannada: 803
Belagavi: 2,118	Chikkamagaluru: 401	Dharwad: 969	Kalaburagi: 548	Mandya: 606	Shivamogga: 1,168	Vijayapura: 262
Bidar: 113	Chitradurga: 436	Gadag: 543	Kodagu: 161	Mysuru: 1,916	Tumakuru: 1,562	Yadgir: 317

5 districts announce full lockdown for 4 days

To be in force till May 24; people can buy essentials only on 3 days; exemptions given to farmers, dal mill workers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

HOURS after the video-conference with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the local administration in several districts on Tuesday decided to enforce a complete lockdown for four days in a week in an attempt to check the spread of the virus. Earlier, Chamarajanagar and Shivamogga districts had implemented similar measures.

Hassan District In-charge Minister Gopalaiah said a full lockdown will be enforced in the district on Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Shops selling groceries, vegetables and other essentials will be open only on Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 6am and 10am. Other essential services including hospitals, nursing homes, medical stores, milk parlours and petrol pumps will function as usual.

The lockdown will be in force till May 24 and the further course of action will be decided based on the directions from the state government, he added. The district administration has formed a special team to supervise the facilities available for Covid patients in private hospitals and nursing homes. The team will also act on complaints from patients, if any, the minister added.In Chikkaballapur, a full lockdown across the district will come into effect from May 20, Deputy Commissioner R Latha said.

Speaking to *TNIE*, the DC said the decision was taken after consulting Health and Family Welfare and District In-Charge Minister Dr K Sudhakar. Essentials like milk and groceries will be available between 6 am and 10 am on the other days. Latha, however, said some exemption has been given for farmers to sell their produce on alternate days at the Chinthamani APMC in the morning. Also, cocoon growers will also be allowed at the Siddlaghatta market for a limited time. Inter-district and inter-state movements will also be strictly restricted, but attendants of patients will be allowed with proper identification. All bars and restaurants will also be closed. Chikkaballapur Superintendent of Police G K Mithun Kumar said additional forces will be deployed on the Chikballapur-Bengaluru border and also the Andhra border to regulate movement of traffic.In Kalaburagi, the lockdown will be implemented from 6 am on Thursday to 6 am on Sunday. In Yadgir and Raichur districts, it will be in effect from 12 pm on Wednesday to midnight on Saturday.During this period, all activities except sale of essentials like milk, eggs, medicines, takeaways from hotels, petrol bunks and other emergency services, will be restricted. Indoor work in places like dal mills will be allowed but the workers cannot venture out, the orders issued by the district administrations said.

Police keep vigil during the ongoing lockdown in Koppal on Tuesday | KPN

Mysuru DC Rohini Sindhuri at the video conference with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday | EXPRESS

Mysuru to share Covid Mitra model with PMO

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mysuru

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday held a video conference with Deputy Commissioners of various districts, including Mysuru Deputy Commissioner Rohini Sindhuri, to discuss on measures taken to combat Covid-19.

Though the video conference was scheduled at the DC's office, it was later shifted to the Zilla Panchayat due to a technical snag which forced Sinduri to join the meeting late. Sources who took part in the meeting informed TNIE that the PM did not interact with the Mysuru DC, but his office sought details about various innovative measures taken by the district administration in its battle against the pandemic.

After the video conference, Sindhuri said that the PMO sought details of the best and innovative practices adopted in the district. "The Covid Mitra concept and the Pancha Sutra initiative that was first launched in the district has helped people. Over 10,000 people have visited the Covid Mitra centres, especially in the rural pockets. We are sharing these concepts with the PMO," she said.

"We are also discussing modifying the lockdown relaxation hours between 6 am and 10 am to 6 am and 8 am. We will take a call on this soon," she said.

Keep infra ready to tackle infection in children during 3rd wave: Docs

RANJANI MADHAVAN @ Bengaluru

WITH experts signalling a rise in Covid cases among children during the third wave, paediatric specialists have advised ramping up existing infrastructure and keeping manpower in place to handle the surge.

Dr Naveen Benakappa, Medical Superintendent of Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health, pointed out that oxygen, medicines and emergency drugs, HFNC (High Flow Nasal Cannula), CPAP machines, ventilators should be increased so that no child is turned away. "Most children are doing well, even if they contract the virus. Ventilators will be the last resort and ICU care may be needed in a few cases. Almost all government hospitals have separate paediatric wards and beds. Some of them will be reserved for Covid-19 patients," he added.

If the surge is overwhelming, the existing manpower including resident PGs, faculty and senior paediatricians, will need to be trained and oriented for paediatric management and diverted for treating Covid-positive children, recommended Dr Mallesh K, Professor and Head, Department of Paediatrics, Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute. "We will need more pediatricians and specialists to be sent to government hospitals handling children's cases. Other health professionals handling adults can be trained for paediatric cases too. Hiring permanent staff is a lengthy process and therefore, contract staff can be recruited," he suggested.

He added that if the vaccination drive succeeds in covering most adults, the proportion of positive cases among them is expected to come down, while there will be an increase in cases among children. The existing high-end ventilators, CPAP machines and HFNCs can be made operable for children, by resetting the software.

Sources said that a paediatric task force will be set up by the government. When asked about preparation by the State Government, Health and Medical Education Dr K Sudhakar said that Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa has already announced that an expert committee will be formed to guide and advise the government on mitigation of the third wave

A girl gives her swab samples for a Covid test at a Primary Health Centre in Bengaluru on Monday | VINOD KUMAR T

CCCs, rehab centres for Covid-hit kids

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

WITH many children losing their parents to Covid, the Karnataka government has decided to set up rehabilitation centres for orphans (up to 18 years of age) and paediatric Covid Care Centres in all 30 districts of the state.

"Children who are orphaned will be taken to adoption centres. There will be quarantine facilities for those aged 0 to 6 years, and separate facilities for boys and girls aged between 7 and 18 years, who are Covid-positive," Women and Child Welfare Minister Shashikala Jolle told the media on Tuesday.

As per the action plan for identification and rehabilitation of children affected or infected by Covid, there are four scenarios – both parents are deceased, both parents hospitalised, one parent deceased and the other hospitalised, one parent hospitalised while other is staying in another district, state or country.

The first step is to consolidate data received from calls to child helpline 1098 or 14499, regarding such children, and submit it to the District Child Protection Unit. Additional information will be collected from anganwadis, health department, labour department and volunteers.

JURY STILL OUT ON PLASMA THERAPY

IFFATH FATHIMA @ Bengaluru

THE Centre's move to drop convalescent plasma therapy from the list of treatment procedures for the management of Covid-19, has evoked mixed views among experts in Karnataka. While some vouch for plasma therapy and say it should be continued, others approve of the decision to drop it.

In April last year, Karnataka initiated plasma trials at Victoria Hospital and some of the recovered Covid-19 patients had come forward to donate plasma. Many hospitals had included plasma therapy in their treatment protocols.

Dr U S Vishal Rao, regional director of head and neck surgical oncology at HCG hospitals, who initiated plasma therapy in the state, revealed that

recently, a systematic review and meta analysis on the effect of plasma therapy on mortality among Covid-19 patients was published by Mayo Clinic, a non-profit American academic medical centre. The analysis was that plasma therapy helped reduce the mortality rate as compared to patients receiving standard treatment. He also pointed out that the US FDA had included plasma therapy.

Dr Rao said, "There are studies which have showcased the benefits of plasma therapy. When we have given plasma from a donor with high antibody titers at an early stage, the patient has survived. For off-label use on compassionate grounds, physicians in India will soon run out of options if we are to start prohibiting the use of the very limited therapeutic options we have in addition to Corticosteroids, because anecdotally, several clinicians will attest to the fact that convalescent plasma saves lives if given to the right patients at the right time, which is the same argument that holds ground for other off-label therapeutic agents in Covid-19."

However, the PLACID trials conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), released in September last year, found that the therapy did not prevent progression to severe disease or reduce the number of deaths at 28-days of enrolment of the patient.

Dr Anoop Amarnath, Member of state's Critical Care Support Team, said, "I do agree with the Centre's call, as there is not much data to support the trials and there is no evidence to show benefits."

Dr Pruthu Narendra Dhekane, Consultant-Infectious Diseases, Fortis Hospitals Bannerghatta Road, said, "Plasma therapy is an experimental one for Covid-19 and, so far, whatever data is available on it, does not show benefits as regards overall mortality. So, to restrict its inappropriate use, it is rational to put an official hold on it unless some new data emerges suggesting otherwise."

Tie-up with Dharwad unit to boost production

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

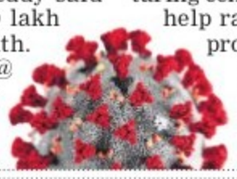
"THE doses may be less for now. DRL will rely on the Apollo network for vaccine storage, transportation, administration and monitoring," a senior doctor from Apollo Hospitals confirmed to TNIE.

As part of the pilot programme, Apollo will receive the vaccine from the first batch of 1. 5 lakh doses imported by DRL from Russia.

Apollo Hospitals' Managing Director Sangita Reddy said they will receive 10 lakh doses over one month. "Delighted to share @ HospitalsApollo has Ptnr with @drreddys 2 admin #SputnikV the 1st foreign-made #vaccine to be used in #India to all DRL staff. Additionally, we will be receiving 1 Mn doses (over 1 mth period) 4 our public #vaccination drive as #IndiaFightsCOVID19," she tweeted.

Experts believe that a tie-up by local company in Raichur, Shilpa Biologicals Pvt Ltd (SBPL), with DRL to manufacture Sputnik V at its integrated biologics R&D cum manufacturing centre in Dharwad will help ramp up the vaccine production.

SBPL's target for the first 12 months is 50 million doses.



EXPRESS READ

Koppal seer peps up Covid patients

Koppal: Apart from setting up a hospital with 100 oxygen beds at the orphanage of Shri Gavisiddeshwara Temple here, seer Shri Gavisiddeshwara Swamiji has been boosting the morale of 32 Covid patients admitted there. The seer inquiries with the patients about their condition every evening through video calls, and also helps their kith and kin talk to them through video conference. He ensures that they get counselling by psychiatrists. The hospital, which that offers free food and treatment, was lauded by Chief Minister B S Yeddiyurappa. **ENS**

Karnataka's mortality rate now 1 pc

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THE mortality rate climbed to 1 per cent on Tuesday after having dipped to well below that point for a few days.

Karnataka's Covid tally since the pandemic broke out on March 8 last year touched 22,72,374, up from 22,42,065 the previous day, while the positivity rate increased from 8.01 per cent on Monday to 8.09 per cent. The positivity rate had dipped to as low as 4.63 per cent on April 4, but the massive surge with the second wave has forced it to rise sharply.

Bengaluru's Covid tally stands at 10,73,072 cases (10,64,396 on Monday), with 298 deaths, taking the mortality rate from 0.91 per cent to 0.93 per cent. Tuesday also recorded Bengaluru's third highest deaths in a single day. The city also saw 8,676 new cases, while 31,795 people were discharged in a single day.

ATMA NIRBHAR

Yadgir's Katagi Shahapur village has its own lockdown, becomes Covid-free

RAMKRISHNA BADSESHI @ Yadgir

AS the Covid-19 second wave is spreading towards the rural areas, a village in Yadgir taluk has set an example in pandemic control by taking self-containment measures. Katagi Shahapur has become Covid-free as the villagers claim to have kept the pandemic at bay from the onset of the second wave itself. The villagers had undertaken a similar exercise during the first wave too last year.

Dr Ramakrishna Reddy, Medical Officer at the Hattikuni Primary Health Centre, covering Katagi Shahapur village, told *Express*, "Initially, nine cases were reported in Katagi Shahapur. No fresh cases have been reported from May 16. During random RT-PCR testing conducted on the villagers last month, only nine cases were reported, all asymptomatic in nature. On Sunday, the reports came negative after a retest. Random RT-PCR testing will be conducted in the village after some days."

Villagers had blocked the road leading to the village with a huge tree trunk to restrict movement of vehicles | EXPRESS

However, the villagers countered his statement, claiming that "no cases were reported as the villagers are health conscious and have taken all precautionary measures right from the onset of the second wave."

Sharanagowda, a local, said "After witnessing the harrowing tales of people from Yadgir and other districts dying due to Covid and troubles in getting oxygen and Remdesivir, the elders of the village met last week. It was decided to restrict people from entering or exiting the village. The movement of people inside the village was also curtailed, except for lighting the lamp at village temples. Every household gave oil to light the lamp for five days during day and night between last Friday and Tuesday. Offerings to the Gods (Naivedya) was also on a rotational basis.

Yadgir Tahsildar Chennamallappa told Express, "Katagi Shahapur villagers are health conscious and hence volunteered to take such strict measures. We did not force them to implement a lockdown."

A 34-year-old tempo driver was killed on the spot after he rammed his vehicle into a slow-moving truck on NICE Road in KS Layout traffic police limits on Tuesday. Boya Basavaraju was trying to overtake the truck when he lost control and crashed into it from behind

EXPRESS READ

Police accused of extorting ₹6 lakh from doctor

Bengaluru: The Sanjaynagar police inspector and two constables are in hot water after being accused of extorting around Rs 6 lakh from a doctor and subjecting him to third-degree treatment. Sources said the inspector, Kathyayini, and the two constables have been suspended. It is learnt that the team had arrested four men including a doctor last week, for allegedly black marketing Remdesivir and selling fake vials of the medicine. "The staffers allegedly subjected the doctor to third-degree treatment and extorted Rs 6 lakh from him. It is said that the doctor worked at a hospital, where one of the inspector's kin died of Covid. Hence, the inspector allegedly extorted money from the doctor and gave it to the dependents of her relative who died," a source said. "The ACP of JC Nagar sub-division is conducting an enquiry into the case," the source added.

FOR CPM, ROCKSTAR MINISTER IS A LIABILITY

Even after being lauded globally, K K Shailaja dropped from Pinarayi cabinet

ANIL S @ T'Puram

K K Shailaja

IN the last 16 months, she had been the face of Kerala before the world. Widely hailed as a rock star minister for her unparalleled performance as health minister and exceptional handling of the pandemic, she was internationally appreciated as the woman behind the famed Kerala Model of public health.

She had led Kerala's fight against Covid-19, winning accolades from across the globe. She was the first to set up a Covid control room even before the country had its first case reported in Kerala last January. Taking a cue from the state's successful fight against Nipah three years ago, Kerala implemented its unique ways of contact tracing, and later launched the Break the Chain campaign.

Not surprisingly, K K Shailaja was projected as the state's first probable woman chief minister. Two weeks ago poll results emphasised her popularity once again as she romped home with the highest ever victory margin in the state's history. None of these, however, seems to have impressed her political bosses in the CPM. Shailaja, along with other ministerial colleagues belonging to CPM, was kept out of the new list of ministers who will be sworn in on Thursday.

While critics allege that the decision of CPM once again exposed the party's and Pinarayi Vijayan's mysogynic attitude, the party chose to brush it aside. A section of political observers felt that her elevation to global fame may have something to do with her exclusion.

Months before the election itself there were indications that she could be sidelined. And she was one of the first to realise the same. She has always expressed resentment whenever projected as a probable woman CM candidate.

Keen to avoid anyone drawing parallels with her and legendary woman revolutionary K R Gouri Amma, she, on more than one occasion, rubbished reports of her replacing Pinarayi at the helm.

Remdesivir racket busted at rly hosp

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE Divisional Railway Hospital unearthed a major racket involving four male staffers who were stealing the drug Remdisivir meant for Covid patients and making big money by selling them at exorbitant rates outside. They have been arrested and remanded to judicial custody.

Two hospital attenders, a nurse and an ambulance driver (contract worker) are involved in the racket that has been going on since April. A doctor is also suspected of being involved, said a senior railway source. "Each Remdisivir vial (100 mg) was sold for as much as ₹50,000. Over 70 vials are likely to have been sold so far," the source added. "RPF personnel conducted a decoy operation wherein potential buyers were sent in to scout for Remdesivir. On Saturday, the ambulance driver offered to sell two vials at ₹50,000 each to one of the buyers. His accomplice, a ward boy, offered to provide another three vials. They were caught redhanded," said another source. They spilled the beans about the other ward boy and nurse.

Nurse caught with 13 vials of Covid drug

Bengaluru: Baiyappanahallii police caught a nurse of a private hospital for selling Remdesivir vials in black at a public place in Kaggasadapura on Saturday. The police recovered a bag containing 13 vials, which he was selling for ₹26,000 each.The nurse, Manu, was supposed to administer two doses of the drug to patients, but would instead give one and pocket the other. This is how he managed to pocket 13 vials.

Take steps to check illegal sale of life-saving drug: K'taka HC to state

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE Karnataka High Court said that all steps need to be taken to eradicate black-marketing of life-saving drug Remedesivir, and also the sale of spurious or fake drugs. The HC made this observation, while declining bail for Sohail Pasha aka Suhail Pasha, a pharmacist from Mangammanapalya, who was arrested by Madiwala police for allegedly trying to sell Remdesivir injections in black.

"He chosen to indulge in black-marketing of Remdesivir, with the sole intention of earning profit. It cannot be understood as to how such an offence could be committed in these uncertain times by playing on the lives of persons suffering from Covid-19.," Justice Suraj Govindaraj said.

PAY CHEQUE

Mys farmers waiting for Pinarayi govt to clear dues

AJITH M S @ Mysuru

WITH the Pinarayi Vijayan-led government set to come to power in Kerala again, far away in Mysuru, a group of farmers are eagerly waiting for his government to take oath. These farmers had supplied vegetables directly to the Kerala government during difficult times including last year's lockdown and the floods. However, they are yet to be paid Rs 54.23 lakh that has been pending since December.

A total of 1,200 farmers from Mysuru, through their farmer producer company Raithamitra Farmers Producers, had been supplying vegetables directly to the Kerala state horticultural products development corporation. "We had gone to great lengths to ensure there was a continuous supply of vegetables. During the lockdown last year we paid the transporters double the usual amount to transport vegetables. During the floods, we even routed them through Coimbatore and made sure they reached," said Kurubur Shantakumar, a farmer leader who heads the FPO. He added that during the floods, they even pooled in Rs 5 lakh from all the member farmers and donated to the Kerala CM's relief fund.

A team of farmers even went to meet the Horticorp CEO and other officials, but they were sent back.

K'taka ranks first in executing Ayushman Bharat

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

KARNATAKA stands at first place when it comes to establishing health and wellness centres (HWC) under the Ayushman Bharat programme to provide comprehensive primary health care in rural areas. With a score of 90 out of 95, the state ranks on top when it comes to the implementation of the project for the year 2020-21 as per the health and family welfare department.

The Centre had set a target of upgrading 2,096 PHCs to HWCs. The state has upgraded 2,168 PHCs so far, which is 103 per cent more than the set target. Also, against the target of upgrading 294 urban PHCs, the state has already upgraded 364 PHCs.

The Centre had set a target of 4,653 HWCs to be established in the state. The state has established 5,832, which is 125 per cent more than the target set by the Union Government.

State Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar said, "Karnataka has emerged as the best state in the country when it comes to the implementation of HWCs under the Ayushman Bharat programme," he said.

The health minister added, "I appreciate all the officers and staffers of the health and family welfare department for this outstanding achievement. The health department is focussing more on controlling the Covid-19 pandemic at this point of time. The state government is also facing a revenue crunch due to the economic slowdown caused by the pandemic. However, this has not stopped our government from implementing developmental projects. Even though our short-term to medium-term goal is to tackle the pandemic, our long -term goal and ultimate aim is to strengthen PHCs, which are the building blocks our public healthcare system."

E-TENDER NOTICE

Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Pookode invites e-tenders for the supply of laboratory chemicals and other items. For more details please visit the website **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in.** **(2021_KVASU_422499_1)** our website: **www.kvasu.ac.in.**

Sd/-
Director
(Academics & Research)
KVASU, Pookode

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CIN No. U74899DL1974GO1007227

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

GM(C), RITES Ltd. Bengaluru invites on behalf of the Department of Tourism, Govt. of Karnataka, Bangalore online percentage rate bids in Two Packet System for the following works:
NIT No. RITES/BLR/OT/06/2021 Date 19.05.2021, Construction of 3 Star Hotel at Belur in Hassan District for Department of Tourism, Govt. of Karnataka – 2nd Call Est. Cost is Rs.1387.30 Lakh (Approx.), EMD **Rs. 13.87 Lakhs,** Period of completion **20 months,** Last date and time of submission of bid : **23.06.2021 upto 11.00 hrs**
The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app. Addendum / Corrigendum, if any, shall be hosted online only.
General Manager (C)
RITES Ltd. Bangalore
For and on behalf of Dept. of Tourism

Govt.of Karnataka
Public Works Department
Executive Engineer PWD Division Chikkodi

No/PWD/CKD DIV/AE-2/TENDER/2021-22/373 DATE: 13/05/2021

Short Term E-Tender Notification

Executive Engineer PWD Division Chikkodi has invited item wise short term e-Tenders from Eligible registered contractors for the works coming under the jurisdiction of Chikodi PWD Division 3 work under head of account **5054-SH Improvements** & 1 work under head of account **8443-Deposit Contribution (DMF),** Total 4 No of works. Amount put to tender is Minimum of Rs. 9.91 Lakhs and Maximum of Rs. 877.19 Lakhs.

Calendar of events for the works at Sl. No. 4:
1) Last date for queries & clarifications : **25-05-2021** up to 5.30 PM
2) Last Date of Receipt of Bids : **27-05-2021** up to 5.00 PM
3) Date of opening of Financial bids (Single Cover System): **29-05-2021** at 4.30 PM

Calendar of events for the work at Sl. No. 1, 2 & 3:
1) Pre-bid meeting date: **29-05-2021** at 11.00 AM, at The O/o the under signed.
2) Last date for queries & clarifications : **31-05-2021** up to 5.30 PM
3) Last Date of Receipt of Bids : **02-06-2021** up to 5.00 PM
4) Date of opening of Technical bids (Two Cover System) : **04-06-2021** at 4.30 PM
5) Date of opening of Financial bids (Two Cover System): **"after approval of Technical bids"**

For more information & forms of tender can be downloaded from www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in & departmental web site **www.kpwd.gov.in.** Further details can be collected from O/o Executive Engineer Public Works Dept.,Division Chikkodi during working hours.

Sd/-
DIPO/BGM/RONO.94/20-21 Executive Engineer PWD Division Chikodi

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GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
(World Bank Aided Project)

Request for Bids (National Competitive Bidding)

ap.eprocurement Tender Notice No.16/2020-21, Dt.30-09-2020(3rd Call)

The Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Circle, Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh invites Bids from the intending Bidders for Rehabilitation/Modernization of the Minor Irrigation Tanks under "Andhra Pradesh Integrated Irrigation and Agriculture Transformation Project (APIIATP)" from 17-05-2021 @ 11.00 hours to 22-06-2021 upto 15.00 Hours. For complete details visit at https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in, for enquiry contact No.**08518-220469.**

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, WRD, Irrigation Circle, Kurnool.
DIPR No.96PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2021-22, Dt: 18/05/2021

भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग / DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
नाभिकीय ईंधन सम्मिश्र / NUCLEAR FUEL COMPLEX
ईसीआईएल डाक, हैदराबाद -500062
ECIL POST, HYDERABAD– 500 062

ई–निविदा आमंत्रण हेतु सूचना NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
निविदा सूचना संख्या Tender Notice No.: NFC/IR_W/Canteen/2021

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से, ऑनलाइन ई–टेंडर (एकल लिफाफा प्रणाली) के माध्यम से पात्र ठेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु निविदाएँ आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।
On behalf of President of India, online e-tender (single envelope system) are invited from the eligible contractors for the following work.

कार्य का नाम Name of the Work	Providing Catering and Housekeeping Services in Canteens of NFC, Hyderabad.
अनुमानित लागत Estimated Cost	रु 2,19,68,000/- (Rupees Two Crore Nineteen Lakhs Sixty Eight Thousand Only)
ठेके की अवधि Duration of contract	12 Months from the date of issue of Work Order
निःशुल्क देखने और ई–निविदा को डाउनलोड करने की अवधि Period for free view and downloading of e-tender	From 20-05-2021 to 03-06-2021 (21:00 Hrs.) on website www.tenderwizard.com/DAE
बोली की ऑनलाइन प्रस्तुत करने की देय तिथि Due date for online submission of bids	05-06-2021 (21:00 Hrs.)
हार्ड प्रतियों को प्रस्तुत करने की देय तिथि Due date for submission of hard copies	On or before 14:00 Hrs. of 08-06-2021.
बोली खोलने की तिथि Date of opening of bid	15:00 Hrs. of 08-06-2021

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए, कृपया www.tenderwizard.com/DAE. वेबसाइट पर जाएं। निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना www.nfc.gov.in पर भी केवल देखने हेतु उपलब्ध है।
For further details, please visit website www.tenderwizard.com/DAE. NIT is also available on website www.nfc.gov.in for viewing only.

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Office of the Executive Engineer, Hebbal Division, J. C. Nagara Main Road, Bengaluru.

No.EE/H/TEND/01/2021-22 Date: 19-05-2021

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Short Term-Tender Notification)
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal Only)

The Executive Engineer, (Hebbal), Division BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Contractors registered in Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration with BWSSB/KUSWS&B/PRED/PWD/Railways/MES or any State or Central Government Organisations for the construction of work detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the work & Category	Est. Cost (Rs. in Lakhs)
1.	Providing temporary control room for Hebbal Sub Division for Duration of 4 Months Consists of Two Parts Viz. in Ward No. 18, 19, 20, 21 **(General).** **PART-A (Hire Charges for Machineries and Labour's. Estimate Cost Rs.4.92 Lakhs).** **PART-B (One time Procurement of Equipment, Materials, Estimate Cost Rs.0.49 Lakhs).**	6.00
2.	Providing temporary control room for Hebbal Sub Division for Duration of 4 Months Consists of Two Parts Viz. in Ward No. 22, 33, 34, 46 **(General).** **PART-A (Hire Charges for Machineries and Labour's. Estimate Cost Rs.4.92 Lakhs).** **PART-B (One time Procurement of Equipment, Materials, Estimate Cost Rs.0.49 Lakhs).**	6.00
EMD in ₹.	As per Govt. Declaration	

Calendar of Events: (1) Tender Documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal of GOK from **20-05-2021. (2)** Last Date for uploading the Filled Tender Document is: **27-05-2021 upto 4:00 p.m. (3)** Date of Opening of Tenders is on **28-05-2021 at 4:30 p.m.** if possible or Next working day. Further particulars can be obtained from the above office during working hours on working days or from **website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Hebbal Division, BBMP.

HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19? CALL APTHAMITRA ON 14410
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

DISTRICT HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE OFFICE KOPPAL

No.: Store/KKRDB/23/2021-22 Date: 17.05.2021

SHORT TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through E-Procurement)

E-procurement Short Tender has been called for the supply of **O2 Generation plant for the Treatment of COVID-19 to the General Hospital Kustagi of Koppal District** under the Kalyana-Karnataka Regional Development Board Kalaburgi. (Macro project 2021-22).
(1) Last date and time for filing of tenders: **02.06.2021** on before at **5:00 PM. (2)** Opening Date of Technical Bid: **04.06.2021** at **11:00 AM. (3)** Opening Date of Financial Bid: **07.06.2021** at **11:00 AM.**
E-Mail : dhokoppal@gmail.com

Sd/-
District Health and Family Welfare Officer Koppal
DIPR/Koppal/74/Alaknanda/2021-22

DISTRICT HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE OFFICE KOPPAL

No.: Store/KKRDB/17/2021-22 Date: 17.05.2021

SHORT TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through E-Procurement)

E-procurement Short Tender has been called for the supply of **Medical Equipments for the Treatment of COVID-19 to the Various Hospitals of Koppal District** under the Kalyana-Karnataka Regional Development Board Kalaburgi. (Macro project 2021-22).
(1) Last date and time for filing of tenders: **02.06.2021** on before at **5:00 PM. (2)** Opening Date of Technical Bid: **04.06.2021** at **11:00 AM. (3)** Opening Date of Financial Bid: **07.06.2021** at **11:00 AM.**
E-Mail : dhokoppal@gmail.com

Sd/-
District Health and Family Welfare Officer Koppal
DIPR/Koppal/70/Alaknanda/2021-22

Office of the Executive Engineer, P.W.D. Special Division, Shivamogga
Ph: 08182 - 222942, E-Mail: spdivision@gmail.com

IFT No. 04/2021-22 Date: 29.04.2021

Short Term Tender Notification
(Two Cover System) (through e-procurement)

The Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Shimoga Special Division, invites tenders as per K.T.P.P act 2000, in standard Bid document K/W-4 (two cover system) for the work approved under 4059. **Construction of Taluk Panchayath Building in Thirthahalli Taluk Shimoga district (Extention work) (Indent No. 133622).** Amount put to Tender is **Rs. 517.22 lakhs** and EMD is **Rs. 7.760 lakhs.** Time allowed for completion of work is **15 months including Monsoon.**

The tenderers may submit tenders through E-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka (viz., **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**). The Tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 3 of the Section -2 (Instructions to tenderers) of document, to qualify for award of the contract. Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-Procurement portal from **29.04.2021** to **29.05.2021**. Last date for Receipt of Tender is on **29.05.2021**. The Technical bid will be opened on **31.05.2021** and Financial bid will be opened after **01.06.2021**. More information may be obtained from the office during working hours. Information published in Website is final.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
PWD, Special Division,
Shivamogga.
DIPR/SMG/No.30-05/ZENKAR/2021-22

Government of India
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
Post Bag no. 1. Yelwal, Mysuru 571 130
Telephone: 0821 – 2406630 **Fax:** 0821 - 2403064

BRIEF TENDER NOTICE

The Chief Engineer, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mysure invites For & on behalf of the President of India, Sealed item rate tenders from experienced Contractors with sound financial & technical capacity for the following work(s):

Tender Reference No.	**BARC/MYS/PO&M/JJ/CL/PP/21-22/**
Name of work	Up Keepment inProcess Plant.
Estimated Cost	₹ **2,99,700/-** (Rupees Two Lakh Ninety Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Only)
Period of Completion	**12 Months**
Earnest Money Deposit	NIL, Bid Security declaration may please be provided as per format enclosed.
Security Deposit	2.5% of tendered value
Performance Guarantee	3.0% of tendered value
Cost of Tender Document	₹ **500/-** (Rupees Five hundred only) (Non-Refundable)
Tender Sale Period	From **17-05-2021** upto **27-05-2021, 16.00 hrs.**
Due date & time for submission of Tender	**28-05-2021** up to **15.00 hrs.**
Date & time of opening of Tender	**28-05-2021** on **15.05 hrs.**
Place of Tender Submission	In Box No: 3 at Building No: 2 in BARC, Mysuru
Place of Tender opening	Building No: 2 in BARC, Mysuru

Tender documents will be issued only in person on written request and not by post or Courier.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer
For & on behalf of the President of India

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Storm Water Drain (K Valley), BBMP, 9th Floor, Shopping Complex, 4th Block, Jayanagara, Bengaluru

No.: EE/SWD/KVP/TEND/02/2021-22 Date: 18.05.2021

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
Short Term Tender Notification for AUCTION CUM SALE
(Through GOK E-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer (SWD), Koramangala Valley, BBMP, invites tenders from class-3 and above contractors registered in Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES / Scrapped dealers who have registered under GST / National Highway or any State Government Organizations for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Unit	EMD
1	Auction of old chainlink fencing constructed on Kormangala valley retaining wall on either side at selected places from N.R. Road (K.R. Market Mosque) to Bellandur Lake for a length of 9.60 km (approx) and purchasing the same dismantled material including the cost of transportations, labour & stacking and clearing the debris at site etc., complete as per the directions of Engineer-in-Charge "on As is Where is Basis" (This includes the tenderer should on his own should remove the chainlink fencing from the retaining wall, cut it to suitable sizes which can be loaded into truck and carried to the weighing bridge). **Call-2nd**	MT	10,000/-

Calendar of Events : (1) Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal of Government of Karnataka from **19.05.2021. (2)** Last date and time for receipt of tenders: **26.05.2021, 4:00 p.m. (3)** Date & time for opening of Technical bid: **27.05.2021, 4:30 p.m. (4)** Date & time for opening of Financial bid: **Will be intimated through e-procurement.** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, SWD (KVP Zone), BBMP

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EDITORIAL

Every man I meet is in some way my superior, and in that, I can learn of him

Ralph Waldo Emerson

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

INDIA LOSES OUT ONCE AGAIN IN IRANIAN ROULETTE

In a big knock to our international standing, India has just lost its stake in Iran's Farzad-B gas field in the Persian Gulf. For years, ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL) has been working on the project and invested over $400 million in prospecting the gas field. However, when it came to commercially developing the gas find, the National Iranian Oil Company dumped ONGC and preferred to sign a $1.8 billion contract with local company, Petropars. The OVL consortium began work on the Farzad-B block in 2002 and discovered the massive 23 trillion-cubic-feet gas field in 2008. However, its $11 billion development plan dragged on and came unstuck after US sanctions in 2018 did not allow technical studies to be conducted.

Something similar happened to developing Iran's 620-kilometre $2 billion railroad connecting Chabahar Port to Zahedan in Afghanistan. While the Chabahar port moved ahead, the railroad languished. Finally, after complaints and threats, Iran dumped India last year and decided to go ahead on its own. Not only did we lose a possible $400 million contract for rolling stock and locomotives, we also squandered a logistical opportunity. The Chabahar rail link would have given India direct trade connectivity with Afghanistan, bypassing Pakistan.

While there may be differences between India and Iran on commercials, a deeper dive will show that India has not been able to stand up to the pressures of the US-Saudi Arabia axis over isolating Iran. Suspicions have mounted since 2019 when Indian Oil failed to renew its term contract for the import of Iran crude. Not only did we lose a cheaper alternative to Saudi oil, we also missed out on lower freight charges and softer payment terms. For the Chabahar Port and railroad, though the US allowed a 'carve-out' to its boycott-Iran policy, it appears India went slow on the latter. Trump's 2018 sanctions have also taken a toll on the Farzad-B gas field project. It has been repeatedly proven that India's domestic interests are best served if it remains non-aligned in international superpower disputes. Unfortunately, the lesson has not been learnt and we have suffered commercially once again.

WOMEN'S CRICKET DESERVES BETTER

In two weeks, both the men's and women's senior cricket teams will jointly depart to England, to play in away tours in that nation. While they will fly together, the uniform treatment will end there. There are multiple points that support this. For starters, the men have continued to play cricket during the pandemic either at home (IPL, England) or away (IPL, Australia) since the pandemic hit last year. The women? Not so much. In that same time, the women's side, since making the World T20 finals, has played in a largely tokenistic four-match T20 exhibition event in Sharjah apart from two limited overs series against South Africa at home in March.

Even keeping aside the fact that the women's team has proved to be more successful when compared to its male counterpart across major ICC events in recent times—two finals and one semifinal when compared to three semifinals—it's incongruous to note that the women are without central contracts from last September. While the men were handed new contracts in April, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has kept mum so far with respect to the women. Customised Covid tests and lack of it, the list looks endless.

That's before you come to the point about axing W V Raman, a popular man in the dressing room by all accounts, as chief coach of the women's team. He took the team to last year's T20 final in Australia and saw his charges go without any cricket for a year before South Africa came to India. A few questionable selection calls—reports indicate Raman did not have a role to play here—and he was replaced by Ramesh Powar, who had met a similar end during his first innings. Powar, who took the team to the semifinal of the T20 World Cup in 2018, even had a high-profile falling out with Mithali Raj. So why the mixed messaging? Why remove a popular man who brought success? The ways of the Indian cricket board are generally shrouded in mystery and the reasons are at times bizarre. But the way the women's game has been governed is particularly outrageous and definitely not ideal.

The consecutive second term of the LDF has given it an opportunity for continuity in policy. It is thus on a course to create an economy that ensures high growth and equity

DEVELOPMENT OF KERALA: AGENDA OF NEW GOVERNMENT

AMIT BANDRE

T M THOMAS ISAAC

Finance Minister in the outgoing Kerala Cabinet

The consecutive second term for the LDF government in Kerala provides a rare opportunity for continuity in policy and a chance to complete the agenda for transforming the economic base of the state. There is a growing realisation that the redistributive strategy of development had reached a dead end and could be further pursued only by rapidly modernising the base into a high productivity knowledge-skill-service based economy that will generate quality jobs for educated unemployed youth.

The redistributive strategy of development has ensured a much higher quality of life and welfare to the people in the state. In the SDG achievement ranking, Kerala tops in India with a score of 70. In the world ranking, while India is way below at 117, Kerala's score would give it a rank equivalent to 73. The state is poised to reach the SDG goals by 2030 in most of the sectors, particularly in health, education, hunger and poverty. Kerala can now put forth the agenda to eradicate absolute poverty by providing every family housing, electricity, drinking water, sanitation, at least minimum food, education and healthcare.

The local governments play a key role in the provision of the above basic needs and protection of livelihoods at the local level. During the past 25 years, after the launch of People's Plan Campaign, Kerala has consistently been the front-ranking state in devolution. Even the Reserve Bank of India, in its State Finances Annual Report 2020, deemed it fit to laud the role of local governments in Kerala's Covid response success. They provide a broad platform for people cutting across political divides to cooperate in addressing local problems. The outcomes so far have been encouraging enough to make the state recommit itself to strengthening the democratic decentralisation process further.

High budgetary expenditure in social sectors has been at the expense of capital investment. Kerala has for a long period been one of the lowest capital expenditure-GDP ratio states in the country. As a result, it is woefully backward on infrastructure development, whether it is roads, bridges, public buildings, electricity, railways or industrial parks. This has been one of the factors holding down private investment along with a low rank in ease of doing business. The last government put forward a new strategy of mobilising resources outside the Budget through Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB) for infrastructure investment.

The KIIFB is on the same model as the Development Financial Institution (DFI), which has been set up by an Act of Parliament recently to raise ₹3-4 lakh crore for infrastructure investment. The major difference between the two is that the Central government intends to privatise the DFI after a period while KIIFB will continue to be a public entity. The latter would be open to CAG's or any investigative agency's scrutiny, unlike the DFI. It must have been the success of KIIFB that prompted the opposition to hatch controversies. They have all died down since the elections. The completion of ₹60,000 crore projects being financed by KIIFB will enable Kerala to overcome its infrastructure handicap within a few years.

The next challenge is how to leverage the new infrastructure to transform Kerala's economic base. The last Budget laid down a clear road map for this purpose. Thus, for example, KIIFB finances the K-fone project to provide assured broadband internet connectivity to all institutions and households as well as electricity projects to overhaul the transmission and distribution lines. Their completion will create the preconditions for Kerala to reap employment opportunities that are being opened for working from home in the digital world. Before Covid, around 50 lakh employees were working from home. Now the number has increased to more than three crores. It is expected to rapidly expand to 18 crores in another five years. A massive digital skilling programme for the educated unemployed and educated women who have withdrawn from the labour force into household chores will be launched. A new institution, K-DISK, is being readied for this purpose. It will also negotiate with global employers for hiring the skilled whose details would be provided on a digital platform. Their social security burden will be borne by the government of Kerala. The target is to secure employment for 20 lakh people in digital home work. This programme would make IT the most important employment sector in the state.

A massive digital skilling programme for the educated unemployed and women who have withdrawn from the labour force into household chores will be launched. A new institution, K-DISK, is being readied for this

A massive programme for the promotion of start-ups and private investment into knowledge-, skill- and service-based industries also will contribute to the transformation of Kerala's economic base. The transition to the knowledge economy would also entail restructuring of higher education by setting up autonomous centres of excellence in the university system and a large-scale postdoctoral program with generous monetary benefits. The expatriate Malayalees working in outside universities, labs and research institutions will be playing a very important role in this process.

Today, Kerala presents a picture of high social achievements on a weak economic base and unacceptable levels of unemployment. The case of Gujarat may be a picture in contrast—a rapidly industrialising and growing state but very poor social attainments and deprivation for the poor. Of course, there are the BIMARU states that have neither growth nor equity. Kerala is on a course to create an economy that ensures high growth and equity. We call it Nava Kerala or the New Kerala Model. This is the agenda for the new government.

(drthomasisaac@gmail.com)

SHOULD INDIA RECOGNISE HAMAS?

P R KUMARASWAMY

Professor at JNU. Teaches contemporary Middle East there

Is Hamas relevant for India's diplomatic calculations vis-a-vis the Israel-Palestine conflict? And should India change its stance and recognise Hamas? There are no easy answers.

The ongoing Israel-Gaza violence once again indicates where Hamas stands with regard to the peace process. From the very beginning, the militant Palestinian organisation has opposed coexistence with Israel and has been challenging the mainstream Palestinian movement represented by Yasser Arafat. As long as Arafat was at the helm of affairs, Hamas had to settle for a secondary role within the Palestinian national movement, but this did not prevent the organisation from scuttling and eventually burying the Oslo process of reconciliation and accommodation with Israel.

In the post-Arafat scenario, Hamas was on the ascendance and convincingly won the January 2006 Palestinian elections. Fatah's reluctance and refusal to accept the popular verdict led to an irreconcilable divide between the two and reached a boiling point in June 2007, with the Hamas militarily taking over the Gaza Strip. Since then, the Palestinian areas are divided between the Fatah-dominated Palestine National Authority (PNA)-controlled West Bank and the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip.

During this period, there have been very few contacts, exchanges or negotiations between Fatah and Hamas. For example, since elected president in January 2005, Mahmoud Abbas travelled to India five times (2005, 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2017) but did not set foot in Gaza even once. His attempts to visit the other part of Palestine were abandoned due to security concerns and this even forced Arafat to shift his headquarters from Gaza city to Ramallah months before his death in 2004. Countries like Sudan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Qatar unsuccessfully tried to mediate between the warring Palestinian factions. Thus, for over a decade, the expression 'negotiations' meant mediatory efforts between Fatah and Hamas and not Israeli-Palestinian talks.

The Fatah-Hamas differences are rooted in their ideological worldview. Despite claiming historic Palestine that included the whole of Israel, over time, Fatah and the PLO have become pragmatic and recognised the need to come to terms with the state of Israel. The Oslo process was a historic compromise whereby Arafat agreed to give up claims to about 74% of the territories of mandate Palestine. The Hamas, which scuttled Oslo through its campaign of suicide bombings, viewed the Palestine struggle through an immutable Islamic framework; as a *waqf* property, Palestine, either in full or in parts, cannot be given to non-Islamic sovereignty. The problem for Hamas is not the size or boundaries of Israel but its very existence. Unlike the PLO and other mainstream Arab countries, it was not ready to accept Israel even within the 1967 borders and seeks a Palestinian state that would exist in place of Israel. Its occasional offers of a long-term conditional ceasefire are meant for the Western audience and a euphemism for the eventual destruction of Israel. In short, Hamas is an antithesis to India's two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian problem.

Yet, the recent round of conflict underscores a few uncomfortable realities. President Abbas and the PNA are largely irrelevant. During his 15-year presidency, Abbas could not accomplish any tangible gains towards Palestinian statehood. Despite the growing civil society support for the Palestinians in several Western capitals, including Washington, the PNA has stagnated under his leadership. Other than describing it as a 'slap of the century', Abbas was unable to respond to the Trump Peace Plan, which galvanised Israel's normalisation of relations with Bahrain, Morocco, Sudan and the UAE and growing political contacts with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The willingness of Arab countries to separate the Palestinian question from their narrow national interests did not spur any rethinking within the PNA.

India cannot ignore the growing relevance of Hamas in Palestinian politics. Abbas and the PLO are moderates and have been friends of India for decades, but Hamas is the most effective player today in Palestinian politics. Is diplomatic recognition of the militant movement possible or is there a midway?

Moreover, the tenure of the Palestinian president and parliament is for five years, but no elections were held for the past 15 years. Parliamentary election slated for May 22 was postponed last week on the plea that Israel refused to allow East Jerusalem Palestinians to vote. Under these circumstances, uncertainty looms large over the fate of the presidential elections scheduled for July 31. Like other despots in the region who were overthrown by the Arab Spring protests, Abbas is unable to offer a vision for the future of Palestinians.

Indeed, Hamas is better placed today than it was in January 2006 and the current round of violence is part of its political campaign. By focusing on Jerusalem and al-Aqsa, it is presenting itself as the true and legitimate defender of the Palestinian cause and is better placed to secure Palestinian rights than others. That its military tactics are causing more Palestinian casualties adds to its stature, and they are 'martyrs' to be cherished for their 'sacrifice'.

Do these make Hamas the 'sole and legitimate' representative of the Palestinian people, a position enjoyed by the PLO since 1974? That status enabled the PLO to become an 'observer' in the UN, enjoy international recognition and become a partner in the peace process. Hamas is far from reaching that position, especially as a partner in peace. It is a wrecker of accommodation with Israel, and there are no signs of a fundamental transformation of its end goal.

At the same time, India cannot ignore the growing relevance of Hamas in Palestinian politics. No meaningful development—war or peace—is possible without the militant Palestinian organisation. Abbas, the PLO and PNA are moderates and have been friends of India for decades, but Hamas is the most effective player today in Palestinian politics and has overshadowed all the friends of India.

Yet, diplomatic recognition of the militant Palestinian movement is out of the question. Such a move would poison and wreck India's burgeoning ties with Israel and alienate New Delhi from the Fatah-dominated PLO and several moderate Arab countries. Premature recognition of Hamas would scuttle the prospects of India being an influential player in the Middle East and feed into the militant group's anti-peace agenda.

Without formal diplomatic recognition, is there a midway? India can engage with Hamas through security agencies. Besides providing diplomatic deniability, this approach will lessen the anger and disappointment of Israel and PNA vis-a-vis New Delhi. Yes, away from all glare and publicity, India's intelligence establishment must reach out to Hamas and forge limited engagement. Hamas is the dominant player in Palestinian politics. Will India recalibrate its policy without unduly affecting its close ties with Israel and the PLO?

(kumaraswamy.pr@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Wrong message to people

When Kerala is under strict lockdown, the decision of the state government to hold the swearing-in ceremony at the Central Stadium with 500 attendees is patently ill-advised. It sends out the wrong message to the common man. It was a great opportunity for the government to lead by example and further consolidate the cooperation and support of the people. Alas, it is not to be.

Kurian Mathew, Kochi

Practise what you preach

Politicians never learn or pretend not to learn, whether it is at the Centre or in the states. No one can deny the havoc caused by the Assembly elections and other gatherings that led to the second Covid wave going out of control. Why was an online swearing-in ceremony not possible in Kerala? Politicians should practise what they preach.

Jose NG, Vazhakala

Ruse to exclude Shailaja

The policy to exclude all existing ministers from the Cabinet was a ruse mainly to avoid giving a ministry to K K Shailaja, who was slowly becoming a power centre. This has now been nipped in the bud. If all previous ministers were to be excluded, Pinarayi Vijayan should also have not joined the ministry following the same policy. Now that the Kerala CM has become the unquestioned leader of the CPM, with all other leaders reluctant to even raise their voices, we can wait and see what is going to happen in the future.

M T Thomas, Peruva

Bold move by Kerala CM

'Till death, we don't part'—that was the attitude of octogenarian Congress leaders. And the party also dies with them. Vijayan boldly changed that in the recent polls and won, and has now followed that in Cabinet formation too.

P S Gopinathan, Perinkulam, Palakkad

Selective action by CBI

This is with reference to *Why no action against Suvendu, Mukul Roy?* (May 18). There is no denying that leaders from any political party should be punished if they are corrupt. Many TMC leaders were dubbed corrupt by the BJP earlier and some of them are in the saffron party to escape punishment. The TMC has the right to ask why those now in the BJP have not been arrested.

R Sridharan, Chennai

Mindless violence

The Hamas-initiated action against Israel has now become more violent and deadly as Israeli raids continue in Gaza. The mindless violence must end as it is causing damage and death to Palestinians. It will be impossible to predict the future course of the present military escalations in the region.

K R Parvathy, Mysuru

Deaths due to T'gana action

The Telangana CM and government deserve censure for the *Irresponsible border block* (May 18) of ambulances from Andhra. Borders should be free for legitimate movement, especially health emergencies. There have been serious delays resulting in deaths in ambulances by the time HC intervened.

K Nehru Patnaik, Visakhapatnam

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

Chairman of the Board: **Manoj Kumar Sonthalia** Editor: **G S Vasu**

Resident Editor (Karnataka) : **Santwana Bhattacharya*** Published by **R K Jhunjhunwala** on behalf of Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited, at No. 1, Queen's Road, Bengaluru - 560 001 and printed by him at Express Press, Plot No. 2A, Bommasandra Industrial Area, 4th Phase, Survey No. 46, Part Yarandahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk. Bengaluru - 560 099. **Bengaluru.** Vol. 57, No. 118 RNI Reg. No. 3457/1960. Phone: 080-22866893. * Responsible for selection of News under the PRB Act. **Copyright:** Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited. All rights reserved. Reproduction in any manner, electronic or otherwise, in whole or in part, without prior written permission is prohibited.

TWEETS OF THE DAY

Mahua Moitra @MahuaMoitra
Blast Lady says cow urine protects from Covid.. Epidemic Act should include strong section for mandatory arrest for spreading dangerous info

Tejashwi Yadav @yadavtejashwi
Bihar saw the max deaths of medical practitioners, primarily because it failed to provide protective gears to doctors as per standard safety protocols

Hardeep Singh Puri @HardeepSPuri
Kejriwal ji, international flights have been closed since March 2020.... We still have our eye on the situation. All precautions are being taken

India's fourth vaccine lines up for approval

Ahmedabad-based company to seek urgent nod, experts apprehensive as it is yet to release Phase I-II trial results

SUMI SUKANYA DUTTA @ New Delhi

AHMEDABAD-based Zydus Cadila is set to apply for emergency use authorisation of its Covid-19 vaccine candidate, still under the Phase III efficacy trials, within the next few days, and it could soon be the fourth available vaccine against the deadly virus in India. If the regulatory approvals come through, the vaccine, being called ZyCoV D now, will be the first DNA vaccine, licensed for use in humans.

"We are looking to submit the data by the end of May and eventually look for an approval," company MD Sharvil Patel said in response to queries by this newspaper.

Incidentally, though, the company has not published or released results from its Phase I and II trials showing safety and immunogenicity of the vaccine, though it was submitted to the drug regulator before the last stage trials were started last month.

People wait for their turn at a Covid-19 vaccination centre in Shimla on Tuesday | PTI

The company did not reply to our query on why isn't it making the crucial data public, but Patel insisted that the Phase III trials will be truly representative of the efficacy of the vaccine against many of the known variants as different variants have surfaced in the ongoing wave of the Covid pandemic.

"So, the trial outcomes will have more representative efficacy data than any other vaccine," he said.

The vaccine, which is to be administered intradermally and in three doses, is being tested in over 28,000-plus volunteers, aged 12-99 years as per the Phase III trial protocol submitted to the clinical trial registry of India.

Patel, meanwhile, said the company hopes to supply five crore doses by the end of this year. "We are also looking at further scaling up and are also exploring tech-transfers and partnerships," he said.

Though the hope of another Covid-19 vaccine being available for India, grappling with acute shortage of doses while in the middle of a raging pandemic, comes as a piece of welcome news, experts stressed the need of maintaining due scientific rigour and processes. "Vaccines need to come with the assurance of efficacy and safety and in the absence of clinical trial data to support the same will lead to vaccine hesitancy and lack of trust," said public health researcher Oommen John.

Health policy expert and bioethicist Anant Bhan pointed out that the country was seeing a spate of emergency use authorisations, but it is extremely important that India continues to ensure that there is quality oversight and transparency regarding decision making.

"While presumably, the regulator has access to Phase I and II data, it is crucial for these to also be publicly available. This is important for confidence in the process," he said.

ANOTHER SHOT IN THE ARM

ZyCoV D works against the major viral membrane protein, responsible for the coronavirus' entry into body cells. It is based on plasmid DNA, a small, circular and extrachromosomal bacterial DNA, used in genetic engineering The plasmid DNA has the unique property of self-replication due to which it can be used in different kinds of molecular genetic research. It is an intradermal vaccine, being touted as a painless vaccine, and the full course is of three doses spanned over 8 weeks

Centre says shots not 100% efficacious

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

AMID concerns that breakthrough Covid-19 infections and risk of severe disease despite vaccinations may be much higher than the results from clinical trial data, the Centre on Monday maintained that it had kept a close watch on such incidents.

"The risk of infection in the recipients of Covid-19 vaccines is much lesser (than the unvaccinated population) but there is a small chance that a tiny fraction of people can get the infection despite the vaccinations as vaccines are not 100% efficacious," said Lav Agarwal, joint secretary in the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

There is one more advantage of the vaccines that even those who get the infection despite the shots, will likely not get the severe disease and recovery will be faster, said Agarwal.

VK Paul, member health, Niti Aayog, said that ICMR is keeping a record of breakthrough infections. "As said earlier, breakthrough infections are rare but in a dynamic situation we should watch it carefully," he said.

"But we should remember that vaccine recipients are protected to (only) a certain level and therefore in an overwhelming situation, risk remains and therefore all are requested to continue taking precautions."

The response comes on a day the Indian Medical Association released a list of 269 doctors who have died in India during the second wave of the pandemic, the highest deaths reported from Bihar (78) and UP (37), followed by Delhi (29).

Though the association has not made the vaccination status available of each of the doctors who have died, its office bearers said many of them had taken either both or at least one dose of Covid-19 vaccine.

Sixty-three-year-old K K Agarwal, leading cardiologist in the national capital and former IMA president who succumbed to the infectious disease on Tuesday, for instance, had also completed his two doses of vaccination schedule, as per association sources.

Last month, ICMR director general Balram Bhargava had said that breakthrough infection rates seen in India were thus far negligible, with only two to four infections reported per 10,000 inoculations. He, however, had not elaborated whether or how many of these infections led to severe disease or deaths.

Many experts have pointed out that this data collection by the ICMR has been patchy and delayed and may not be giving the actual picture on breakthrough infections and severe disease despite vaccinations.

We should remember that vaccine recipients are protected to (only) a certain level and therefore in an overwhelming situation, risk remains. All are requested to continue taking precautions—VK Paul, Niti Aayog

Kids 'largely asymptomatic carriers', vax trials soon

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

AMID growing concerns that children could be particularly vulnerable to future waves of the Covid-19 pandemic, the government on Tuesday said that evidence so far suggests that they are largely asymptomatic carriers, but capable of transmission of the disease.

VK Paul, member, health, Niti Aayog and chairman of the national Covid-19 task force, said in a briefing by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare that the serosurvey by ICMR in December-January had shown that children above 10 and adults having comparable rates of Covid-19 infection.

He, however, added that whether children could be more vulnerable in the coming times, depends on virus mutations.

Paul said that soon, clinical trials to test the safety and efficacy of Covaxin, India's and only indigenously developed Covid-19 vaccine so far, in children aged 2-18 years will start.

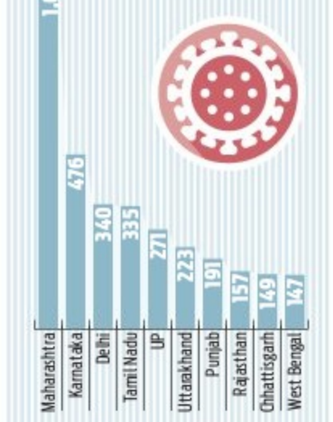
"Covaxin has been approved by Drugs Controller General of India for phase 2/3 trials in the age group of 2 to 18. I have been told trials will begin in the next 10-12 days," he said.

Covaxin had received approval to conduct clinical trials in children last week when the regulator accepted the recommendations by the subject expert committee of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation, which cleared the trial under specified conditions.

Trials are expected to be conducted in 525 participants at various hospitals. Experts have been urging governments all over the world to inoculate kids so that schools can reopen.

INDIA'S COVID TRACKER

FRESH DEATHS



A Covid-19 patient gets help while being discharged from hospital in Kolkata on Tuesday | PTI

1.8 % of India's total population affected by Covid-19

70 % of the deaths occurred due to comorbidities

199 districts see a continued decline in cases and positivity in last two weeks

31,82,92,881 samples tested up to May 17 with 18,69,223 samples being tested on Monday

GLOBAL RELIEF

11,325 oxygen concentrators

15,801 oxygen cylinders

8,526 ventilators/Bi PAP

19 oxygen generation plants

6.1 lakh Remdesivir vials

All have been delivered/dispatched to different states and UTs, says Union Health Ministry

Source: Union Health Ministry

UP cops suspended after body burnt using petrol

LUCKNOW: Five police constables, who supervised cremation of an unidentified body being cremated with tyres and petrol on the banks of the Ganga in Ballia district of east UP, have been suspended.

A video of the body's cremation on Maldepur Ghat of Ballia district went viral on Tuesday, prompting the SP-Ballia Vipin Tada to initiate action in the matter.

"After a video showing the policemen at the cremation went viral, the five constables were suspended for showing insensitivity in the matter and a probe ordered into the incident. The probe will be conducted by the additional SP (ASP) Ballia," said Tada on Tuesday. Sources said a series of videos gone viral pertain to the incident at Ballia's Maldepur Ghat on Monday. An unidentified body was being invaded by stray dogs on the river banks at the same spot under the supervision of the cops. Later it was cremated at the same ghat.

The video shows a man tasked with cremating the body under police supervision, using a bottle of petrol and tyre for lighting up the funeral pyre. In the wake of reports of bodies floating in the Ganga from various parts of the state, including Ballia district, the Yogi Adityanath government had issued directions on May 14 to ensure proper cremation of Covid bodies.

The government ordered ₹5,000 assistance for cremating the bodies, as many bodies were dumped in rivers owing to fear of contracting the viral infection or in the want of wooden logs to cremate the bodies. The local administration were directed to ensure proper cremation of all such bodies. The UP Police headquarters, too, had issued orders to all districts on Monday to ensure patrolling of the river banks. *ENS*

Accused by BJP of creating toolkit to defame govt, Congress lodges FIR

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE BJP on Tuesday claimed that the Congress had launched a campaign with a toolkit to damage the image of the government and the Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Congress refuted the allegation, saying that BJP is propagating a fake toolkit and filed a complaint with the Delhi Police Commissioner against BJP chief JP Nadda, Union minister Smriti Irani and other BJP leaders. An FIR was also filed.

Nadda in a tweet said that "dividing society and spewing venoms against each other, Congress is a master at this", while using the tag that stated "Congress toolkit exposed". Nadda added: "While the nation is fighting Covid-19, I would urge the Congress to go beyond toolkits model and do something constructive."

The Congress maintained that the BJP claim of a toolkit is fake. "BJP is propagating a fake 'toolkit' on 'COVID-19 mismanagement' and attributing it to AICC Research Department. We are filing an FIR for forgery against JP Nadda and Sambit Patra," Congress' research cell head Rajeev Gowda tweeted. "When our country is devastated by COVID, instead of providing relief, BJP shamelessly concocts forgeries."

Earlier, BJP leaders took to the micro-blogging site to slam the Congress for the toolkit. Union Minister of State for Finance, Anurag Thakur, using the same tagline, said: "Rahulji.you've no shame in communalizing Eid and Kumbh for political gains during Covid-19... you champion the spread of the international propaganda and use of dramatic pictures of funerals and dead bodies by Congress. Why are you behaving like vultures."

Congress retorted by saying BJP has forged the letterhead of the Congress Research Department and tried to distract the attention of the world from the failures. "How much time, how much effort, would you spend in 'A' covering the truth 'B' spreading lives?" the party added.

Before that, BJP's organisational secretary BL Santhosh also hit out at the Congress. "When the country was in the midst of a crisis and every single unit of the society were rising up to the challenge, the Congress was spreading fake news," he said.

PATRA, SURJEWALA LEAD WAR OF WORDS

BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra said it is clear that the Congress extending help is "more of a PR exercise with the help of friendly journalists." Chief Congress spokesperson Randeep Surjewala said: "We are going to file a case against JP Nadda and his spokespersons."

NEW STRAIN

Singapore says no truth in Kejriwal claim

NEW DELHI: SINGAPORE'S health ministry has refuted claims of a Singapore variant of Covid-19. This was in response to news reports which said that Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has urged the Centre to stop flights from Singapore because of a 'new COVID strain'.

"The Ministry of Health refers to the reports ....on 18 May 2021 ("Stop Singapore Flights: Arvind Kejriwal to Centre Over New COVID Strain")," Singapore's Ministry of Health said in its website. "There is no truth whatsoever in the assertions found within the reports. There is no "Singapore variant". The strain that is prevalent in many of the COVID-19 cases in recent weeks is the B.1.617.2 variant, which originated in India. Phylogenetic testing has shown this B.1.617.2 variant to be associated with several clusters in Singapore." Kejriwal had said in a tweet in Hindi that a new Covid strain found in Singapore is dangerous for children. It could come to India in the form of a third wave, he said. He urged the Centre to start working on vaccines for children. Later, he shared a link to a news, in which Singapore had warned that new virus strains are infecting more children.

2-DG awaits task force nod

New Delhi: The national Covid task force could consider incorporating 2-DG, a drug developed indigenously for treatment, in the treatment protocol for the disease. The medicine has been developed jointly by the DRDO in collaboration with Dr Reddy's Laboratories, Hyderabad. "We will examine the data and consider it for the protocol," said V K Paul, task force chairman.

PM on vaccine supply

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Tuesday continuous efforts are being made to ramp up Covid-19 vaccine supply in a big way, asserting that attempts are on to provide states with a 15-day advance schedule of the inoculation drive as it will allow them to prepare accordingly. He was speaking to district magistrates from 100 badly affected districts.

New RT-PCR kit to spot strains

New Delhi: A newly developed multiplex RT-PCR kit has a higher accuracy of detecting Covid across the various mutant strains. The kit developed by Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology targets two SARS CoV2 genes: RdRp and ORFb-nsp14, and the human RNAse P gene as the internal control to help detect a range of mutant strains.

END OF AN ERA

After viral 'show must go on' video, Dr Aggarwal succumbs to Covid

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

PADMA Shri award winner and eminent cardiologist, Dr KK Aggarwal succumbed to Covid-19 late on Monday night at AIIMS, Delhi.

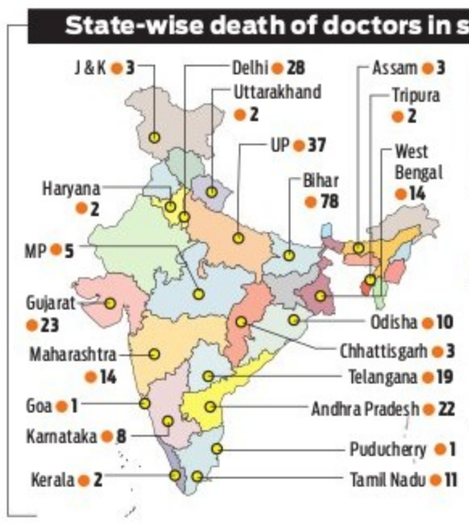
Aggarwal, 62, was the former national president of the Indian Medical Association. He was on ventilator support since last week. According to a statement, he passed away at 11.30 pm after a "lengthy battle with COVID-19". He is survived by wife Dr Veena Aggarwal, son Nilesh and daughter Naina.

A statement posted in the early hours of Tuesday on Aggarwal's Twitter handle by his family said he wanted his life to be celebrated, not mourned.

"Ever since he became a doctor, Padma Shri Dr KK Aggarwal has dedicated his life to the welfare of the public and raising health awareness. Even during the pandemic, he made constant efforts to educate the masses and was able to reach out to 100 million people through numerous videos and educational programmes and saved countless lives," the statement read.

Around two weeks ago, Aggarwal was last seen on a Facebook video, on oxygen support battling Covid and pneumonia in the hospital. "The show must go on," he said in the clip which went viral on Twitter.

State-wise death of doctors in second wave



Late cardiologist DR KK Aggarwal

TOTAL DEATHS 269

Unknown 2

Number of Death

Even during the pandemic, he made constant efforts to educate the masses and was able to reach out to 100 million people through numerous videos and educational programmes

Dr Aggarwal's family statement

Tributes poured in on social media after the sudden demise of the health expert. Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal was among them. "Passing away of Dr. KK Aggarwal is a setback for the nation. He acted all his life for the health rights of common people especially poor, deprived and marginalised. A great human being. RIP!," he wrote on Twitter.

Aggarwal had received Padma Shri, the country's fourth-highest civilian honour, in 2010. He was also honoured with the Dr BC Roy Award. Aggarwal's name was mentioned in the Limca Book of Records for training the highest number of people lifesaving techniques of hands-only CPR at one go.

He had received both doses of vaccine. However, he had comorbidities as he was suffering from Crohn's disease and had pulmonary embolism three years ago, said family sources. Members of the fraternity hailed Aggarwal as an "iconic figure in mass education and awareness".

RAT NIBBLES NEWBORN'S FEET

The Madhya Pradesh Human Rights Commission has sought a report from senior government officials over the incident of rats nibbling a newborn's feet in a state-run hospital in Indore, an official said on Tuesday

9 BLACK FUNGUS CASES AT AIIMS RISHIKESH

	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	42	28	Mumbai	34	28
Bhopal	39	24	Panaji	34	28
Jaipur	38	27	Patna	32	23
Amritsar	39	23	Lucknow	36	25
Chennai	33	27	Port Blair	38	28
Kolkata	32	24	Imphal	29	17
Srinagar	23	13	Chandigarh	38	24

Steepest positivity rate fall since mid-April: UP govt

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Lucknow

AT 3.12% on Monday, Uttar Pradesh has reported the steepest decline in Covid positivity rate since the middle of last month even as the state conducted nearly 2.80 lakh tests.

Keeping up with the declining trend, despite being the most populous state, Uttar Pradesh recorded a total of 8,727 fresh cases in the last 24 hours — less than 10,000 cases for the second consecutive day.

The rate of active cases vis-a-vis the total tally in Uttar Pradesh has also dropped to its lowest since April 30. The number of active cases in the state has come down by a remarkable 56% since its peak on April 30 as the active cases have dropped from 3,10,783 to 1,36,342.

As a result of effective and timely treatment, regular teleconsultation and provision of free medicine kits to Covid patients even in quarantine cases in the state, the number of active patients in home isolation dropped drastically below the 1 lakh-mark on Monday.

In the last 24 hours, 21,108 patients recovered from the disease, taking Uttar Pradesh's recovery rate to 90.6%.

As many as 14,83,244 people have so far won their battle against the deadly virus in the state as on Tuesday.

The stringent T3 testing mechanism of 'Test, Trace and Treat' adopted by the Yogi Adityanath-led government has given a major boost to the state's battle against the second wave of the pandemic.

In total, 2,79,581 Covid tests were conducted in Uttar Pradesh in the last 24 hours, out of which 1,14,066 were RT-PCR tests, adding up to the total of 4,52,31,090 samples that have been tested so far in the state.

255 DEATHS OVER 24 HOURS

The state reported 255 fresh deaths taking the Covid-19 toll to 18,072, additional chief secretary (Health) Amit Mohan Prasad said on Tuesday. Of the fresh deaths recorded in the state, Meerut reported the highest with 20 deaths followed by Lucknow 19 and Kanpur Nagar 12, Saharanpur 11 and Agra 10 along with others, a health department bulletin on Tuesday said

NARADA STING

HC comes down heavily on Mamata over protest

Says Monday's agitation gives ground for transfer of trial

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Kolkata

CHIEF Minister Mamata Banerjee may have been following her convention of agitations during the dharna at the CBI office in Kolkata on Monday, but it seems to have gone against the four party leaders arrested in the Narada sting operation case, with the High Court taking serious view of the matter, legal experts said. Pulling up Mamata Banerjee for the dharna, while Trinamool supporters agitated in front of the Central agency's office, the Kolkata High Court in a late night sitting on Monday criticised the "manner in which pressure was sought to be put".

Staying a CBI special court's order granting interim bail to the four accused and remanding them — TMC ministers Subrata Mukherjee and Firhad Hakim, MLA Madan Mitra and Kolkata former mayor Sovan Chatterjee — in judicial custody, the court observed: "We are not touching the merits of the controversy but the manner in which pressure was sought to be put will not inspire confidence of the people in the rule of law."

Legal experts in Kolkata High Court said that Mamata was following her convention by staging protest.

"It is her trademark style. She sat on dharna for one month in Singur against the then Left Front government's land acquisition. She staged a sit-in-demonstration in Nandigram. She again sat on dharna when the CBI arrived at the office of the former police commissioner of Kolkata Rajeev Kumar. Now, it seems, her dharna at the CBI's office went against the accused in the High Court," said a senior lawyer.

> The aforesaid facts are sufficient to take cognizance of the present matter for examination of the issue regarding transfer of the trial
>
> Kolkata High Court

The CBI, in its petition, stated the details of Mamata's act and the obstructions created by the TMC supporters in front its Nizam Palace office. The investigating agency also sought the court's approval to transfer the case to another state. Referring to CBI's petition, the High Court said: "In our opinion, the aforesaid facts are sufficient to take cognizance of the present matter with reference to the request of the learned Solicitor General of India for examination of the issue regarding transfer of the trial."

In the petition, CBI also alleged that Bengal law minister Malay Ghatak, along with supporters, mobbed the court where the accused were to be presented. The central agency had to produce the four accused in front of the lower court's magistrate virtually.

WB post-poll violence: Plea for CBI probe

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court on Tuesday sought the response of the West Bengal government on a petition seeking a CBI probe into the killings of two BJP workers during the post-poll violence.

A vacation bench of Justices Vineet Saran and BR Gavai was hearing a plea by Biswajit Sarkar, the brother of a deceased Bengal BJP worker Abhijit Sarkar, who was allegedly murdered in the violence.

The plea before the top court prayed for the formation of a SIT by the SC so that the murder of Avijit Sarkar and a Bengal BJP booth worker, Haran Adhikari, can be enquired into.

The petitioner and the copetitioner, who is the widow of Adhikari, stated that they are eye witnesses to the incident. "The mob tied a CCTV camera wire around his neck, strangled him and started beating him with bricks and sticks. They smashed his head and killed him in front of his mother, who seeing her son getting slaughtered lost consciousness," the plea stated.

New bench to hear ex-CoP plea against coercion

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

A new bench of the Supreme Court will now hear the petition filed by former Mumbai police commissioner Param Bir Singh for a CBI inquiry into his complaint against Mumbai Police threatening him to withdraw his graft charge against former Maharashtra home minister Anil Deshmukh.

When the matter came up on Tuesday before a Vacation Bench of Justices Vineet Saran and BR Gavai, the latter said, "I cannot hear the matter."

During a brief argument, senior advocate Puneet Bali representing Param Bir Singh claimed that a witch-hunt is on against him ever since he wrote a letter on March 20 to the chief minister, exposing the extortion racket run by the then Maharshtra home minister Anil Deshmukh.

The bench directed the petition to be listed before another bench in view of the reservation expressed by Justice Gavai.

Singh had accused Deshmukh of running an extortion racket through the police department. The assistant sub inspector, Sachin Waze, who was allegedly tasked with collecting ₹100 crore a month from bars and restaurants in Mumbai, has since been dismissed by the incumbent Mumbai police commissioner.

Waze was earlier arrested by the National Investigation Agency in connection with the Antilia bomb scare and the death of a Mumbai businessman Mansukh Hiren.

In his plea, Singh has accused Mumbai Police's inquiry officer of threatening to foist multiple injuries and investigations on him if he does not withdraw his complaint against Deshmukh.

The Maharashtra government had earlier stated before the Vacation Bench of Bombay High Court that they will not arrest Singh in an FIR registered against him in Thane.

The FIR was registered against Singh and 32 others based on a complaint by Inspector Bhimrao Ghadge at Akola, which was transferred to Thane in April.

Singh claimed the FIR alleged commission of offences in 2015 and was belatedly registered after having failed in an attempt to pressurise him to withdraw the complaint letter to Maharashtra chief minister levelling corruption charges against Deshmukh

Modi to visit Gujarat and Diu today

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

APART from Barge P-305, rescue operations happened on three other adrift vessels — Support Station 3 (196 persons onboard), Great Ship Aditi and Drill Ship Sagar Bhushan (101 person onboard), which are 15-20 nautical miles south east off Gujarat coast (Pipavav). INS Talwar reached the area and coordinated the rescue efforts.

The Western Naval Command, in coordination with ONGC and DG shipping, has diverted five tugs for assistance. Great Ship Aditi and Support Station 3 have been able to drop anchor, said the Navy spokesperson. Meanwhile, OSV Samudra Sevak and SV Cheel are trying to manoeuvre Sagar Bhushan, and the situation at present appears stable.

The sea continues to be extremely rough with wind speed around 35-55 kmph, posing a challenge to the ships and aircraft involved in the rescue operations.

Meanwhile in Gujarat, Chief Minister Vijay Rupani said relocating over two lakh people from coastal areas helped limit the fatalities.

An tree uprooted by strong winds fanned by cyclone Tauktae crushing vehicles on a Mumbai street on Tuesday | PTI

Around 16,000 buildings and huts were left damaged by the cyclone. There are also reports that five people died in Thane and Palghar in cyclone-related incidents in the last two days in Maharashtra.

When the cyclone first hit Gujarat on Monday night, the wind speed was around 150 km, but it reduced to around 100-110 km on Tuesday. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Gujarat and Diu on Wednesday to personally review situation.

Rupani said the biggest concern was providing uninterrupted power and oxygen supply to Covid and non-Covid hospitals, since Gujarat is a major producer of the life-saving gas. However, there was no major disruption in its production and delivery.

FRESH TROUBLE

Ignored by Gehlot, Pilot loyalist puts in his paper

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

SENIOR Congress MLA and former minister Hemaram Choudhary on Tuesday resigned from the Rajasthan Assembly. A Sachin Pilot loyalist, Hemaram, an MLA from Gudhamalani, was among the 19 legislators, who had rebelled against chief minister Ashok Gehlot last year. Sources said he was upset with the party for not giving him any important post.

Choudhary's resignation set social media abuzz with speculations, while sources said the move was aimed at pressuring the high command to start the process of much-delayed Cabinet reshuffle and political appointments in the state. While his resignation does not pose any threat to the Gehlot number, which would still command 105 seats in a House of 200, it is likely to show the leadership in poor light. The Congress government still has the support of 13 independent members, one RLD and two CPM MLAs to go past the magical figure of 101. "I had resigned earlier, too, but it was not accepted. Now, I have been an MLA for two and a half years. Enough is enough, it does not matter whether I serve the remainder of my term. The reason will be explained after its acceptance," Choudhary said.

He had previously resigned on February 14, 2019, but the party had convinced him to stay. The resignation was not even made public then. To ward off a recurrence, it seems he has announced his resignation publicly as well.

NHRC seeks report on UP jail killings

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

THE National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Tuesday sought an action taken report on the May 14 killing of three inmates in a shootout in Chitrakoot jail from the Uttar Pradesh DGP, the District Magistrate, Superintendent of Police and Chitrakoot jail superintendent through DIG, Prison, Prayagraj.

The authorities have been asked to submit the report within ten weeks into the incident of the killing of three inmates in a shootout inside Chitrakoot Jail on May 14.

On May 14, a prisoner had allegedly snatched a pistol from a prison personnel and killed two other prisoners. Subsequently, he was also killed in firing by the jail staff. The rights panel asked the authorities to file a detailed report (covering all the aspect leading to the death of the prisoners/encounter), copies of all relevant GD entry or extract including departure, arrival of police/forces before and after the encounter, copy of seizure memo.

It said that the ATR must also include MLC reports of the injured police personnel, if any, details of criminal history of the deceased persons, if any (including the present status of case(s) registered against the deceased). The rights panel further said that the ATR should also contain site plan of scene of occurrence giving all the details (including positioning of forces/police and deceased during the encounter), Inquest report, Post-mortem examination report of each of the deceased (typed copy of PMR especially injury along with diagram of entry-exit/ wound)

The report should clearly mention whether blackening/charring/tattooing was present or not, and also contain videocassette/CD of post mortem examination of each of the deceased, result of the forensic examination of "hand wash" of the deceased to ascertain the presence of residue of gun powder, report of ballistic expert on examination of the arms and ammunition alleged to have been used by the deceased and his companions.

The panel also called for "report of fingerprints expert, clearly mentioning whether the chance prints found on seized weapon matches with the fingerprints of the victim alleged to have fired the weapon recovered or otherwise, details of the investigation agency among other details.

REPORT ON FAKE ENCOUNTER ALLEGATIONS

The Commission further said that other reports, if applicable, are also to be submitted before it. The reports must include copy of the dead body handover memo, if applicable; copy of identification memo, if applicable; copies of relevant wireless log; action taken on a complaint by a relative of deceased or other persons alleging killing in a fake encounter/negligence on the part of public servants

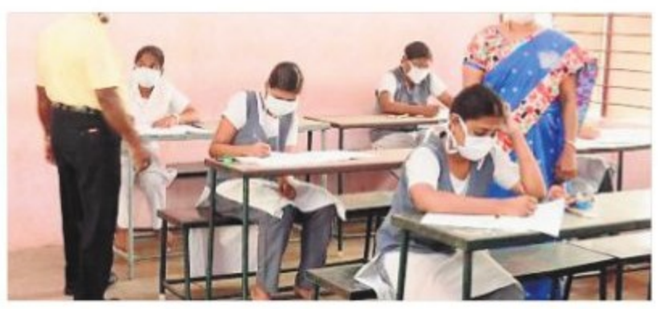
EXPRESS READ

2 held in connection with grenade blast in Assam

Tinsukia: At least two persons were arrested in connection with the grenade blast at Tingrai in Assam's Tinsukia district that killed two persons, police said on Tuesday. A senior police officer said two persons were identified for allegedly lobbing the grenade from a motorcycle and a bounty of ₹2 lakh was announced to catch them. On the basis of CCTV footage, the police recovered the bike and then arrested one accused Hiren Gogoi from Lakhipathar under Digboi police station on Monday, the official said. Gogoi is a surrendered ULFA militant. "On the basis of the interrogation, we arrested the second accused Ranjit Changmai of Lakhipathar," the police officer said. The duo do not have any direct link with ULFA(I).

Journo, activist arrested under NSA for FB posts

Imphal: The Manipur Police re-arrested journalist Kishorchandra Wangkhem and activist Erendro Leichombam under the NSA after they were granted bail for an earlier arrest for their allegedly derisive social media posts on state BJP chief S Tikendra Singh, following his demise last week. The duo was arrested on Thursday after they took to Facebook to extend their condolences, while also writing that cow dung or cow urine was no cure for Covid-19, in two separate posts. The saffron party's state vice-president Usham Deban Singh and general secretary P Premananda Meetei filed a complaint against Wangkhem and Leichombam, after which the police picked them up from their residences here.



Higher secondary exams slated for June suspended

Bengal's secondary and higher secondary examinations, which were due in June, will not be held, said an official of the state education department. "Due to lockdown being extended till May 30, it will lead to exam conducting bodies requiring more time to organise these exams," said an official. The education department, in consultation with the boards concerned, will work out a reasonable time frame, said the official adding the students and their guardians will be given reasonably sufficient time to prepare.

KOLKATA DIARY

PRANAB MONDAL
Our correspondent in West Bengal
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Birla Hosps campaign for Covid-appropriate behaviour

CK Birla Hospitals carried out an extensive campaign by distributing free masks to enhance the awareness among citizens of Kolkata. The campaign was carried out at traffic signals, public transport depots and prominent roads of the state capital. Dr. Simmardeep Gill, the group chief operating officer, CK Birla Hospitals, said people of the city need to be aware of using masks to save themselves from Covid-19 infection. "In these trying times, we are barely able to keep our heads above water. We are in crisis. The number of infected people is rapidly rising at a time when we are facing an acute shortage of beds. At this hour of crisis, people need to be aware of using masks and follow basic precautions. This may erase the need to come to hospitals," said Gill.

La Martiniere drops fees bomb on parents

The La Martiniere schools have announced a fee hike of up to ₹50,000 a year over the concession given last year. Hundreds of parents complained it was an unfair decision. There were also questions whether such a hike was legally tenable after Kolkata HC's intervention last year in response to a complaint by parents that in the absence of on-campus classes, schools should not charge fees like in normnal years. The fees for KG now stands at ₹1,30,000 against ₹79,200 ordered by the HC; for Class XII, the fees is ₹1,06,000 against the ₹69,000 after concession.

RT-PCR test accorded top priority by health dept

Samples for RT-PCR test from serious and 'clinically unstable' patients will have to be collected first and be accorded top priority, the Bengal health department has said in a recent advisory. "This has become extremely important to expedite the process of collection of RT-PCR testing samples to report generation of clinically unstable patients for quick medical intervention," says the directive jointly issued by the state's director of medical education and director of health services. The directive comes in the wake of the health department receiving several complaints about health institutions refusing to admit patients without a test result despite the state government's instructions that all serious patients be admitted irrespective of test reports.

$1.26 m
amount Indian-American Manish Singh defrauded a married couple in US

EXPRESS READ

Man cuts own throat, dies after court verdict

Fargo: Federal authorities say a man on trial in Fargo, North Dakota, slashed his own throat in the courtroom Monday and died. North Dakota US Marshal Dallas Carlson said the incident happened after a jury returned a partial guilty verdict against the man, who had faced terrorizing-related charges. Carlson said the man had a sharp instrument that might have been made of plastic.

China skyscraper shakes, Shenzhen in panic

Beijing: One of China's tallest skyscrapers was evacuated Tuesday after it began to shake, sending panicked shoppers scampering to safety in the southern city of Shenzhen. The near 300-metre (980 ft) high SEG Plaza inexplicably began to shake at around 1pm, prompting an evacuation of people inside while pedestrians looked on open-mouthed from the streets outside.

Over 50 go missing after boat from Libya sinks

Tunis: More than 50 people were missing on Tuesday when their boat sank after leaving Libya heading to Europe, Tunisia's defence ministry said, with 33 others rescued. The survivors were picked up off the coast of Tunisia. "There are 33 survivors, all apparently from Bangladesh," said Flavio Di Giacomo, spokesman for the International Organization for Migration.

China offers to host Afghan peace talks

Beijing: China, which has stepped up its diplomacy between Pakistan and Afghanistan in the wake of the US troops withdrawal from the war-torn country, has offered to host peace talks between the Afghan government and the Taliban. Significantly, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said China will back the Afghan government headed by Ashraf Ghani in playing a leading role.

Death toll climbs in Israel-Gaza conflict amid frantic diplomacy

Rockets from Gaza kill 2 as Israel topples 6-storey building | Palestinians across Israel & the occupied territories go on strike | US backs Israel's right to self defence

GAZA CITY

A STRIKE launched from Gaza killed two Thai workers inside a packaging plant in southern Israel on Tuesday, police said, hours after Israeli airstrikes toppled a six-story building in the Palestinian territory that housed bookstores and educational centers.

With the war between Israel and Gaza's Hamas rulers showing no sign of abating and truce efforts apparently stalled, Palestinians across Israel and the occupied territories went on strike in a rare collective action against Israel's policies. The general strike and expected protests could further widen the conflict after a spasm of communal violence in Israel and protests across the occupied West Bank last week.

Since the fighting began last week, the Israeli military has launched hundreds of airstrikes it says are targeting Hamas' militant infrastructure, while Palestinian militants have fired more than 3,400 rockets from civilian areas in Gaza at civilian targets in Israel.

The latest attack from Gaza on Tuesday hit a packaging plant in a region bordering the territory. In addition to the two people killed, who were in their 30s, Israel's Magen David Adom rescue service said it transported another seven wounded people to the hospital.

Israel continued its airstrikes into Gaza, leaving behind a massive mound of rebar and concrete slabs in its attack on the six-story building that housed bookstores and educational centers used by the Islamic University and other colleges. Desks, office chairs, books and computer wires could be seen in the debris. Residents sifted through the rubble, searching for their belongings.

Palestinian protesters run for cover from tear gas fired by Israeli security forces near the settlement of Beit El and Ramallah in the occupied West Bank | AFP

> **Through the (general) strike Palestinians are expressing a collective position against Israel's "aggression" in Gaza and Jerusalem, as well as the "brutal repression" by police across Israel**
>
> Muhammad Barakeh, one of the organisers of the strike

Palestinians in Israel, east Jerusalem and the occupied West Bank observed a general strike Tuesday. It was a rare show of unity among Palestinian citizens of Israel, who make up 20% of its population, and those in the territories Israel seized in 1967 that the Palestinians have long sought for a future state of their own. .

The strike was intended to protest the Gaza war and Israeli policies that many activists and some rights groups say constitute an overarching system of apartheid that denies Palestinians the rights afforded to Jews. Israel rejects that characterization, saying its citizens have equal rights. It blames the war on Hamas, the Islamic militant group that controls Gaza, and accuses it of inciting violence across the region.

Meanwhile, US President Joe Biden, in a telephonic call with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, supported Israel's "right to defend itself" against indiscriminate rocket attacks and encouraged him to make every effort to ensure the protection of innocent civilians, the White House has said. Hewelcomed efforts to address inter-communal violence and to bring calm to Jerusalem, the White House said.

During the phone call, Biden reiterated his firm support for Israel's 'right to defend itself' against indiscriminate rocket attacks, it said. *Agencies*

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Sri. MANJUNATH .R**, Aged about 38 years, S/o. Sri. B.T. Rajanna, Residing at 39/1, 2nd Cross, 3rd Main, Chikkasandra, Hanumanthappa Layout, Near Vani Convent, Hessaraghatta Main Road, T. Dasarahalli, Bangalore - 560 057, have changed my minor son's name from **Srinidhi M.** to **Darshan Gowda M.** vide affidavit dated 18.05.2021 sworn before Advocate & Notary Manohar Jeerige, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **JAYALATHA**, spouse of R Balachandran Nair, resident of Cherukara veedu, vadacode perumpazhuthoor Post, Trivandrum District, Kerala – 695126 have changed my name from **JAYALATHA** to **JAYALATHA KS** vide affidavit no. IN-KA09481808686831T at Bengaluru, Karnataka.

All the news. In just a click. Log to www.newindianexpress.com

Telangana State Medical Services & Infrastructure Development Corporation,
Director of Health Campus, Sultan Bazar, Hyderabad -95. Telangana State.

Short term GLOBAL e-Tender No: 4/TSMSIDC/Medicine Wing/2021-22 Dated: 18.05.2021

Online Short term Global e-Tenders are invited from licensed manufacturers for supply of COVID VACCINE (10 Million Doses) to TSMSIDC Hyderabad. The tender will be governed as per the guidelines of Government of India. The details of tender and tender documents will be made available on website **https://tender.telangana.gov.in** and **https://tsmsidc.telangana.gov.in**. The date and time of downloading the tender is **21 May 2021 from 18:30 Hrs** and last date and time of online submission of the tender document is **04 June 2021 upto 18:00 Hrs**.

Sd/-
Managing Director

ಕೆನರಾ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ Canara Bank (A Government of India Undertaking) Together We Can

Chamarajpet - 1 Branch : No. 6, 2nd Main, 2nd Cross, Chamarajpet, Bangalore - 560018. Ph No 080-26508640/22425149. Email : cb0405@canarabank.com

DEMAND NOTICE TO BORROWER / GUARANTOR / MORTGAGOR

Notice issued under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

To,

Borrower : Mr. Narasimha Murthy
Residing at : No. 36, Ist Main Road, 8th Cross, Cholara Palya Magadi Road, Bangalore - 560023.
Guarantor : Mrs Jayshree M, W/o Laxman Reddy H N
Residing at : No. 1370, 15th N Cross, Kumaraswamy layout, Bangalore - 560078.

That you, **Mr. Narasimha Murthy** have availed various loan against which there are outstanding liabilities as mentioned below. We had called upon you to clear the entire liabilities for the loans borrowed from our Branch.

You have committed default in repayment of loans as mentioned below and the loans were classified as Non Performing Assets on **13.03.2021**. The Bank through this notice brings to your attention that you have failed and neglected to repay the said dues/ outstanding liabilities and hence hereby demand you under Section 13(2) of the Act, by issuing this notice to discharge in full the liabilities of the Borrower as stated in hereunder to the Bank **within 60 days from the date of receipt of this notice.** The notice under Sec.13(2) of the Act sent to you by Registered Post. Ack. Due on **26.04.2021**. has returned undelivered.

Further, it is brought to your notice that you are also liable to pay future interest at the rate of 8.10 % and 2.00% penal interest together with all costs, charges, expenses and incidental expenses with respect to the proceedings undertaken by the bank in recovering its dues.

Please take note of the fact that if you fail to repay to the Bank the aforesaid sum of **Rs.4,05,899.00 (Rupees Four Lakhs Five Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Nine Only)** as on 12.4.2021 and together with further interest and incidental expenses and costs as stated above in terms of this notice under Section 13(2) of the Act, The Bank will exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub-section (4)(a) and (b) of Section 13. You are hereby restrained from dealing with any of the secured assets detailed below in terms of Section 13(13).

Your attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

A/C No.	Nature of Loan	Amount	Liability as on 12.4.2021
0405619004500	Housing Loan	**Rs.7,00,000.00**	**Rs.4,05,899.00**

Details of Security Assests : EMT of Residential property bearing Muncipal No. New.36, situated at 8th Cross Road, Cholurpalya, Bangalore, Ward No.33, Vijayanagara Ward, having BBMP PID No.33-31-3 (formerly bearing then Municipal No.33/3, Khata No.36 in Sy No.47 of Kempapura Agrahara Village, Cholurpalya Layout, Magadi Road, Bangalore) measuring East to West 14 ft and North to South 27.6 ft, totally measuring 386.4 sq feet. Bounded on : **East By :** Property of Kempanna, **West By :** Private Property, **North By :** Private Property and **South By :** Road. Name of Title holder **: Mr Narasimha Murthy.**

Place : Bangalore
Date : 18.5.2021

Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

THE HUTTI GOLD MINES COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Hutti - 584115, Raichur Dist, Karnataka State
Tele:(08537) 275463, 276339, 275740
email : :material276339@gmail.com website: www.huttigold.co.in

TENDER NOTIFICATION No.04/21-22 Dt. 19.05.2021
(Through e-procurement Portal only)

Tenders are invited by "The I/c Dy. General Manager (Materials)" for the procurement of following goods / services from reputed manufacturers/authorized dealers, as detailed below.

Sl No.	Description	Qty.	Apprx. value (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	Supply of Transformer, 2000KVA, 11KV/660-760V **HGML/2020-21/IND3077**	1 No.	27.73
2	Supply of Manpower for Pipe line laying work. **HGML/SERVICE/122/2021-22**	-	7.53
3	Procurement of Tailing slime classification. **HGML/2020-21/IND2935/call-2**	1 No.	62.16

1) Last date for receipt of tender: **07.06.2021 at 4.00 PM**
2) Opening of Technical Bid on: **10.06.2021 at 10.00 AM**
Tender shall be submitted through e-procurement portal only & tender processing fees as per e-portal norms. Please visit website: **https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** for submitting the bid. Any further details can be obtained from the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/-I/c Dy.General Manager (Materials)

LEADING GOLD PRODUCER IN INDIA

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala - 147001.
Corporate Identity No. : U40109PB2010SGC033813, Website : www.pspcl.in
Contact Number : 9646107151

Tender Enquiry No. 543/GHTP/EMC/SGMC-W4/Vol-31 Dated: 18.05.2021

Superintending Engineer, Elect. Mtc. Circle, O&M, GHTP, Lehra Mohabbat invites E-Tender for the work of Routine, Preventive, Breakdown & Shutdown Maintenance of 6.6KV & 415V AC Switchgears, 220V & 24V DC power supply systems, ESP Control Panels and other local control panels and associated equipments, battery banks, battery chargers, local push button stations and power receptacles, HT & LT Power and control cables installed at various locations under Switchgear Mtc. Cell of 2x210MW Stage-I and 2x250MW Stage-II, Guru Hargobind Thermal Plant, Lehra Mohabbat, District Bathinda, Punjab as per details given in the tender specifications for a period of one year. For detailed NIT & tender specification, please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from **25.05.2021, 11:00 AM** onwards.

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any, will be published online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in**

230/GHTP-24-21-5/18/2021
76155/12/256/2021/4626

KPC GAS POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40102KA1996SGC020337)

No.: KPCL/2021-22/PS/WORK_INDENT10992 Dtd:17.05.2021

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through e-procurement portal only) (TWO COVER SYSTEM)

Bids are invited in English from the intending bidders possessing experience in similar works issued by GoK for the work of **"Rewinding/ Reinsulation, varnishing, baking and epoxy gel coating of faulty generator, Testing of re-conditioned generator of V27 Vestas 225kW Wind Energy Generator including Transportation (To & Fro) at Kappatagudda Wind Energy Farm Stage-I, KPCL, Gadag, Karnataka"** The details of NIT & brief bid notification can be viewed on KGPCL website: **www.karnatakapower.com** & downloaded from GoK e-Procurement website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** The period of completion is **45 days (Forty Five) Days.** Last date for submission of bids through e-portal: **02.06.2021 upto 16:00Hrs.** Further details can be had from: **Executive Engineer (Wind), KPC Gas Power Corporation Limited # 3, KGPCL New Office Building, Palace Road, Behind Drug Control Dept. Bangalore-560 001. e-mail: eewindkpcl@karnataka.gov.in, eewind.kpcl@gmail.com**

RAIL COACH FACTORY, KAPURTHALA

E-TENDER NOTICE

On-line bids are invited by PCMM, RCF on behalf of President of India for following items:-

Sr.No.	Tender No. & Due Date	Description	Qty. (Nos/Sets)	EMD(₹)
1.	17211083A / 09.06.2021	Supply and Application of Set of SS Luggage rack in LHB parcel van	324 Sets	729390/-
2.	17211092 / 09.06.2021	Luggage rack Mounting for SLR LHB Coach	32 Sets	60370/-
3.	17211361 / 09.06.2021	Set of FRP ceiling panels for LHB GS coaches	61 Sets	269650/-
4.	17211083B / 09.06.2021	Luggage racks-2 types	56 Sets, 8 Sets	397640/-
5.	14201164B / 11.06.2021	Oxygen Gas Compressed	51732 cum	Nil
6.	17211255C / 11.06.2021	Set of Attachment Wall and FRP Covering For LHB SLR HOG Coaches	143 Sets	41410/-
7.	17211360 / 14.06.2021	Set of seats and berths for LHB SLR HOG coaches (31 Seater), with cushioning material recron foam.	69 Sets	300710/-
8.	17211359 / 14.06.2021	Set of Seats for LHB GS Coaches, with Cushioning material recron foam.	67 Sets	418800/-
9.	05211166 / 14.06.2021	Front Part (2 types)	16 Sets	67430/-

1. For details and making On-line bids, visit Website **http://ireps.gov.in** Drawings/specifications, wherever required can be downloaded from RCF Website **http://www.rcf.indianrailways.gov.in. Class IIIb digital signature certificate required for on-line bidding, can be obtained from licensed certifying agencies listed at http://www.cce.gov.in** 2. All Limited tenders and Advertised tenders will normally close at 11:25 Hrs and 14:25 Hrs respectively on the stipulated date and will be opened at 11.30 Hrs and 14.30 Hrs. 3. Tenders at Sr. No. 1 to 8 will be opened at RCF, Kapurthala and Sr. No. 9 will be opened at RCF, Tilak Bridge, New Delhi-110002. 4. For queries contact IREPS Helpdesk at 011-24102855, 011-24105180 or RCF Helpdesk at 011-23378658. **NOTE:** "GST No. of RCF is 03AAAGM0289C1ZT. All the suppliers are advised to quote this in dispatch documents for the supplies made by them".

Notice No.: G-RCF/122-01/Stores/014/2021-22 Dated: 18.05.2021 PCMM

THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II
No. 4, Jeevan Mangal Building, Residency Road, Bangalore-25.
T.A. No. 1760/2017

M/s Phoenix Arc Pvt Ltd., ...Applicant
AND
Luiran ....Defedants

SUMMONS ISSUED TO DEFENDANT UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULE 1993 BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

To: Luiran, Rep. by its Partner Mr. Sheikh Zakir, No.13 & 14, 80 Feet Road, 4th Block, Koramangala, Bangalore-560 034.

Whereas the applicant has instituted an application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against the above defendants for **Rs.19,09 012.92** (Nineteen Lakhs Nine Thousand Twelve and paise Ninety Two Only) amount together with current and future interest,cost and other reliefs.

The above mentioned defendants are required to appear therefore hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an Advocate or duly instructed in support of their defence to show cause on **15.06.2021** at **10.30 a.m** as to why the relief's prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand the seal of this Tribunal on this **01.04.2021.**

By Order of the Tribunal
Sd/-Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal Bangalore

THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II
No. 4, Jeevan Mangal Building, Residency Road, Bangalore-25.
T.A. No. 1480/2017

M/s Phoenix Arc Pvt Ltd., ..Applicant
AND
Binary Logica & Another ....Defedants

SUMMONS ISSUED TO DEFENDANT UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULEE 1993 BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

To,

1.Binary Logica, Rep. by its Prop. Sri. Manjunath N, No.242, 1st Floor, New Thippasandra Main Road, HAL 3rd Stage, Bangalore-560 075.

2.Sri. Manjunath N, Prop. of Binary Logica, Old No.59, No.65, Vinayak Layout, Nanjandahalli, Mysore Road, Bangalore-560 039

Whereas the applicant has instituted an application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against the above defendants for the recovery of Sum of **Rs.20,60,730.63** (Rupees Twenty Lakhs Sixty Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty and Paise Sixty Three Only) amount together with current and future interest,cost and other reliefs.

The above mentioned defendants are required to appear therefore hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an Advocate or duly instructed in support of their defence to show cause on **15.06.2021** at **10.30 a.m** as to why the relief's prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand the seal of this Tribunal on this **01.04.2021**

By Order of the Tribunal
Sd/-Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Bangalore

यूनियन बैंक Union Bank of India
Peenya Branch
Address: 488/B, 14th Cross, VITC Bhavan, 4th Phase, Peenya, Bangalore - 560058
Phone No: 080 2836 6546/548
Mail Id: cb0763@corpbank.co.in

DEMAND NOTICE
UNDER SEC.13 (2) SARFAESI Act 2002

Enforcement of security interest Action Notice-In connection with the credit facilities enjoyed by the following borrowers with in the branches mentioned herein below-classified as NPA We have to inform you that you whose Name & Address mentioned here in below had availed following credit facilities from **Union Bank of India, Peenya Branch,** offering the property, mentioned here in below. Since you have failed to repay the loan amounts as agreed by you, your following mentioned account/s has/have been classified as Non Performing Assets [NPA] as on the date mentioned herein below. The individual notice has been also already sent to you demanding the due amount

1. Name and Address of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Mortgagor/Guarantor: Mahesh L (Since Deceased) Represented by Legal heir Mrs. Devaki w/o Late. Mahesh. L, **Minor Children's represented by Minor Guardian Mrs. Devaki** w/o Late. Mahesh.L, No. 1760, 4th Cross, 3rd Block, HRBR Layout, Hennur Main Road, Bangalore - 560084. **Guarantor: 1) Mr. Harish Kumar** S/o Mr. Lakshmi Narayana, No.25, 4th Cross, Sampige Road, Malleswaram Bangalore-560003. **Mrs. Rathnamma** w/o Mr. Lakshmi Narayana, No.25, 4th Cross, Sampige Road, Malleswaram Bangalore-560003

Name of Facility Amount Due

S. No	Facility/Loan	Limits	Outstanding as on:13/05/2021	Date of NPA
1	WCTLN - 560716000017933	3,10,00,000.00	3,61,74,450.27	30-04-2021
2	CSLPS - 565141000040157	1,60,00,000.00	1,60,98,743.70	30-04-2021
3	TI005 - 560726000030108	7,95,000.00	4,02,325.00	31-03-2021
	Total	4,77,95,000.00	5,26,75,518.97	

Amount Outstanding : as on:13.05.2021, Rs. 5,26,75,518.97 (Rupees Five Crore Twenty-Six Lakhs Seventy-Five Thousand Five Hundred Eighteen and Ninety-seven Paisa Only) together with interest at contractual rate. **Demand Date : 15.05.2021**

Description Of The Secured Assets: 1) EMG of Residential Apartment bearing Flat No. G-2 (Municipal No. 22/1) Ground Floor, A-wing, Palace Orchard Apartment, 9th Main Road, 6th A Cross, RMV Extension, Sadashivanagar, Bengaluru – 560 080 belongs to Late. Mahesh L

2) EMG of Commercial site at Municipal no 174/2, PID no 27-13-174/2, Old No. 230 & 174, Nataka Rathna Gubbi Veerana Road, S.C Road, Seshadripuram, Bangalore -560020 bounded on East by: Road, West by Property No. 43/2, North By: SC Road, South by: Property No. 43/2. Belongs to Mrs. V. Rathnamma and Mr. L. Harish Kumar

2. Name and Address of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Mortgagor/Guarantor: 1) Mr. B. Rudraprakash, No. 610, 7th Main, 1st Floor, 3rd Cross, Vijayanagar, Bangalore **2) Mr. K.C Shivaraju**, No. 93 & 98, Jakkanahalli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural - 562123. **Guarantor: K. C Basavaraju,** No. 241,214/2, Ward No.14, B.M Road, Kunigal Kote, Kunigal -572130

Name of Facility Amount Due

S. No	Facility/Loan	Limits	Outstanding as on:06/04/2021	Classified as NPA as on.
1	AGTL-560931000579392	24,00,000.00	44,88,585.00	31-08-2020
2	CCCK - 560381003430891	9,00,000.00	11,96,564.00	31-07-2020
3	AGTL-560931000579430	3,80,000.00	6,95,027.00	31-08-2020
	Total	36,80,000.00	63,80,176.00	

Amount Outstanding : as on:06.04.2021, Rs. 63,80,176 (Rupees Sixty-Three Lakhs Eighty Thousand One hundred and Seventy-Six Only) together with interest at contractual rate. **Demand Date : 09.04.2021**

Description Of The Secured Assets: 1) EMG of Residential Land and Building Property NO. 241/214/2, Kunigal Kote, B.M Road, Kunigal 572130 belong to Mr. K.C Basavaraju bounded on East by Road, West by Land of Sabjansab, North by: Land of Chandrashekaraiah, South by Land of Rudraswamy

2) EMG of land and built up thereon situated in S.No 14/3, Nayakanapalaya, Madabal Hobli, Magadi Taluk, Ramanagar Dist bounded by East by Land of Siddalingaiah, West by Lands of Gowramma, North by Land of Umesh, South by Land of Gowramma

If you fail to repay the aforesaid sum with interest and incidental expenses within 60 days from the date of this notice, Bank shall exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub section (4) of the section 13 of the SARFAESI Act. You are also put on notice that in terms of sub section 13 of section 13, you shall not transfer by sale, lease or otherwise the said secured assets detailed above without obtaining written consent of the Bank. This notice is without prejudice to the Banks rights to initiate such other action or legal proceedings as it deem necessary under any other applicable provisions of law. Your kind attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Date : 18.05.2021
Place : Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Union Bank of India

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
LOWER CAUVERY BASIN CIRCLE, THANJAVUR
TENDER NOTICE

NIT No.1/2021-2022/ LCB Circle/Thanjavur/dated 17.05.2021

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, sealed tenders are invited from the eligible contractors for the following works at the office of the Superintending Engineer, WRD., Lower Cauvery Basin Circle, Thanjavur –1 and the tenders will be opened detailed below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Approximate work value (Rs. in lakhs)	EMD Amount in Rs.	Date and time of tender documents available	Date and time of Submission of tenders	Date and time of opening of tenders
	Rate Quoted -Two Cover System					
1.	Construction of a Grade wall across the Vennar River at LS 79.250Km to maintain the theoritical bed level and to feed Muniyur and Vikramanar channels in Thennancholai Village of Papanasam Taluk in Thanjavur District.	753.93	3,95,000	From 21.05.2021 to 21.06.2021 upto 5.45 pm.	22.06.2021 upto 12.00 Noon	22.06.2021 at 12.30 PM
2.	Construction of a Grade wall across the Vennar River at LS 85.180Km to maintain the theoritical bed level and to feed Nanjumanar channel in Ivelithottam Village of Papanasam Taluk in Thanjavur District.	573.03	3,05,000	From 21.05.2021 to 21.06.2021 upto 5.45 pm.	22.06.2021 upto 12.00 Noon	22.06.2021 at 12.30 PM
3.	Construction of a Grade wall across the Vettar River at LS 73.635Km to maintain the theoritical bed level and to feed Surakkayur and Kavalur channels in Surakkayur Village of Papanasam Taluk in Thanjavur District.	477.10	2,55,000	From 21.05.2021 to 21.06.2021 upto 5.45 pm.	22.06.2021 upto 12.00 Noon	22.06.2021 at 12.30 PM
4.	Construction of Tail End Regulator across Manjalar River @ LS.146.500Km in Kalamanallur Village of Tharangambadi Taluk in Nagapattinam District.	767.88	3,95,000	From 21.05.2021 to 21.06.2021 upto 5.45 pm.	22.06.2021 upto 12.00 Noon	22.06.2021 at 12.30 PM

Eligibility Class of Contractor : Class I State level & Lower Cauvery Basin Circle level
Cost of Tender Schedule : Rs.15000 +Rs.2700 and GST
Period of Contract : 15 Months
Name of Executive Engineer to Whom the amount to be remitted : For item No.1to3 : Executive Engineer, WRD., Vennar Basin Division, Thanjavur. : For item No.4 : Executive Engineer, WRD., Cauvery Basin Division(East) Mayiladuthurai.

Other details can also be available from the Government Designated website: **www. tenders.tn. gov.in**
Any Corrections / Corrigendum / Extension, if any will be issued in the above web site only

Superintending Engineer, WRD,
Lower Cauvery Basin Circle, Thanjavur

DIPR/1574/TENDER/2021

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Market Watch

MARKET				GOLD				SILVER				FOREX			
612.60	Sensex	50,193.3		₹31	24 carat (1 gm)	₹4,664		₹2,000	Per kg	₹74,000		Dollar	73.04		
184.95	Nifty	15,108.10		₹31	22 carat (1 gm)	₹4,564		₹2	Per gm	₹74		Euro	88.95		

Govt to revise states' GST shortfall estimate

The second wave, which had been more devastating than expected, was not taken into account earlier, say officials

ANURADHA SHUKLA @ New Delhi

AHEAD of the GST council meeting on May 28, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has asked the Revenue Department to come up with revised GST revenue shortfall numbers for this financial year given the Covid-induced lockdowns imposed across states.

"A fresh assessment of the GST collection shortfall is required ahead of the Council meeting. While some emergency situations were accounted for, the second wave had been more devastating and longer than expected. We will be ready with the numbers ahead of the meeting," a senior official from the revenue department told *TNIE*.

Earlier, the finance ministry had projected GST revenue shortfall to be to the tune of ₹1,56,164 crore for the current financial year (FY22). However, it had not taken into account the severity of the second Covid-19 wave. As such, a fresh estimate has to be made before the Council meeting.

According to sources, the accumulation in compensation kitty had been falling short

even before the pandemic broke out. Fresh lockdowns in industrial pockets like Gujarat, Chennai, Mumbai, Delhi-NCR and Bengaluru are bound to further hit collections. Moreover, states have also been pressing for waiver of GST on critical items such as vaccines.

In April, the GST collection came in at ₹1.41 lakh crore, 14 per cent higher than that in March 2021. While this was a record high, experts said the clear picture regarding GST collections for April would emerge only in May and June.

Last week, West Bengal finance minister Amit Mitra also highlighted this matter in a letter addressed to Nirmala Sitharaman. "May I point out that among many matters that need to be discussed most urgently at the GST Council, is the alarming shortfall that is expected in the compensation to states. As per GoI, the shortfall was expected to be to the tune of ₹1,56,164 crore in 2021-22 without taking into consideration the impact of Covid Wave-2," Mitra wrote in the letter to Sitharaman

Even last year, the compensation issue became a sticky point. But after several heated discussions, both the Centre and the states agreed to meet an estimated GST revenue shortfall of ₹1.10 lakh crore.

Second wave may dent realty sector revival as sales fall

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

BATTERED by the fresh wave of Covid-19 infections, housing sales have fallen by over 50 per cent during the first half of the ongoing quarter. Besides, over 4.22 lakh housing units, which are scheduled to be completed by the end of 2021 across the top seven cities, may get delayed in terms of completion due to supply chain constraints and localised restrictions, say analysts.

"While data for the April-June quarter is yet to be collated, from what we see since April till date is that there is more than 50 per cent decline in residential sales across the top seven cities already as against the previous quarter. Most of the top cities including MMR, Pune, NCR, and Bengaluru have been severely impacted," Prashant Thakur, Director & Head - Research, Anarock told this publication.

Most of the top cities including MMR, Pune, NCR, and Bengaluru have been severely impacted... Overall, there is more than 50 per cent decline in residential sales across top 7 cities

Prashant Thakur, Director & Head (Research), Anarock

According to the property consultants, the first quarter (January-March) of the fiscal saw housing sales of around 58,280 units in the top seven cities.

The contraction in demand also comes at a time when prices of commodities have skyrocketed, meaning buyers this time won't be able to enjoy any major price correction. "Construction costs including cement, steel and sand have shown varying degrees of price increase over the last year. This makes it impractical for developers to lower prices especially those related to under-construction homes. In fact, we saw a marginal increase in prices in the first few months of this year and may well see a price increase once the market situation returns to normal," said Mani Rangarajan, Group COO, Housing.com, Makaan.com and Proptiger.com.

Industry executives say that the second wave has been more devastating than the first, infecting lakhs and killing thousands daily. To control this surge, almost the entire country is under some form of lockdown that has affected site visits and thereby residential sales. Fears of consumption snag looks more palpable as risk-averse consumers seem deferring big ticket investments and shifting towards precautionary savings. "Home buying decisions are, at the moment, being put on hold. Sales and new project launches and investments are taking a dip across the key markets," said Abhishek Jindal, Founder & CEO, OwnersTown. He added that the second wave has increased uncertainty and instability in tier 1 and tier 2 markets, even though developers and other key stakeholders are better prepared to deal with the situation this time. Jindal, however, is hopeful that "if the second wave is contained soon and the third wave does not come or at least does not cause too much damage, then we can expect the recovery process in the real estate segment to at least start by the end of the second quarter of the fiscal."

LAWSUIT

Cairn makes damaging remarks on India's handling of Air India

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

IF Air India was run as a truly independent juridical entity, it would have gone out of business well over a decade ago, but it is kept in existence only to further India's interests —Cairn Energy Plc has made some damaging remarks like this on Air India and the way the government had run its day-to-day operations in its submission to the US court.

The UK-based energy giant sued Air India in a US court to recover the $1.2 billion arbitration award that it won against India in the retrospective tax dispute case.

Cairn has made a submission in the court that Air India is the alter ego of India and that it should be held jointly and severally responsible for India's debts.

In the court filing, a copy of which is with *The New Indian Express*, Cairn has said that India does not observe corporate formalities but rather stacks the board of Air India with politicians and civil servants, all the while India dictates the airline's everyday policy decisions at every level. It went on to add that government revenue — including the revenue taken from Cairn Energy — is funneled into Air India to keep "this unprofitable enterprise running".

In its court submission, Cairn Energy has given five reasons as to why Air India should be held liable for the outstanding dues of the Indian government. Cairn argued that only does India support Air India financially through grants, capital contribution, guarantees, loans, and special tax treatments, but India essentially controls Air India's access to other sources of funding, including private bank loans, Air India's earnings from air service operations, including by regulating fares and routes, as well as Air India's spending. It added that Indian government officials manage the airline and control its day-to-day operations. "India appoints Air India's leadership, sets their pay, and has the power to remove them from their position. Unsurprisingly, this has led to an Air India Board of Directors dominated by government officials, and to the prompt removal of Directors or managers who criticize India's micromanagement of the airline," it stated in its filing.

The third reason it gives is that all of Air India's profits and losses are borne by India, the government even guarantees loans of Air India. In return, says Cairn, Air India

provides India with valuable services by upgrading government employees' tickets for free, delaying collection of outstanding payments, and purchasing specially made aircraft exclusively for government VIP service.

Fourthly, India forces Air India to undertake uneconomic transactions to accomplish foreign policy goals, to fly routes that generate more losses than revenues for its own political and diplomatic purposes, and to give government officials perks on its airlines. And lastly, it noted that the distinction between Air India and India is illusory, and respecting those differences would inequitably allow India to shield its assets from creditors.

Tata Motors posts surprise net loss of ₹7,605 cr on $2 bn JLR write-offs

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

TATA Motors, the country's largest automaker, on Tuesday has reported a consolidated net loss of ₹7,605 crore for the quarter ended March 31, 2021 (Q4 FY21) as against a loss of ₹9,894.2 crore during the same period last year. According to trade pundits, Tata Motors was expected to report profit of ₹2500-3,000 crore for the fourth quarter.

The automaker said that asset write-downs and restructuring costs with respect to new Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) strategy — Reimagine — impacted the bottomline. Tata Motors wrote down assets worth ₹9,606.1 crore related to cancelled models at JLR. It also incurred restructuring costs worth ₹5,388.2 crore related to the subsidiary unit. In total, the exceptional loss came in at ₹15,000 crore.

Meanwhile, Tata Motors' revenue from operations came in at ₹88,628 crore for the fourth quarter, up 42 per cent year-on-year. On a standalone basis, too, Tata Motors had a fantastic quarter. The company reported a net profit of ₹1,646 crore as against a loss of ₹4,871 crore in the year-ago period. JLR, except for the write-offs, also witnessed a strong performance during the quarter. Its retail sales in the fourth quarter were 123,483 vehicles, up 12.4 per cent year-on-year. This was supported by a strong recovery in China, where sales grew 127 per cent over Q4 last year, when the impact of Covid-19 peaked in that market.

"While demand remains strong, the supply situation over the next few months is likely to be adversely impacted by disruptions from COVID-19 lockdowns in India and semiconductor shortages worldwide," said Tata Motors which expects Q1FY22 to be relatively weak due to this as well as rising commodity inflation and expects to improve from the second quarter.

Canara Bank's bad loan woes continue in Q4

New Delhi: State-owned Canara Bank on Tuesday reported a net profit of `1,010.87 for the fourth quarter ended March 2021 as provision for bad loans declined as against net loss of `6,567 crore in the same period a year ago.

Provisions for bad loans for the reporting quarter declined sharply to `4,692 crore as against `8,979 crore in Q4 FY20. However, the lender didn't get much reprieve on the asset quality front. Gross NPAs remained at an elevated level of 8.93 per cent at the end of March 2021, slightly higher than 8.21 per cent by the end of March 2020. Fresh slippages trebled from a year ago period to a whopping `14,495 crore in the March quarter, partly due to the Supreme Court's standstill on bad loan recognition that prevented banks from labeling defaulted loans as bad.

TODAY'S STOCK PICK

Current Price ₹284.95

Target Price ₹320

ZENSAR

Zensar reported an impressive PAT growth (33% YoY), led by 6pp EBITDA margin improvement. We expect revenue growth to rebound from 2HFY22E as new leadership (Ajay Bhutoria took over in Jan'21), refreshed strategy and reinvestment of margin gains in sales start paying off. With a likely return to double-digit growth in FY23E on a good FY22E exit and recovery in key accounts, we see potential for a stock re-rating.

—Motilal Oswal Financial Services

Disclaimer: The views and recommendations made above are that of the individual analyst or broking company, and not that of *TNIE*.

ASIANOMICS

VIETNAM

INDUSTRIAL PARKS SHUT AFTER COVID OUTBREAK

Vietnam's northern province of Bac Giang on Tuesday ordered four industrial parks, including three that house production facilities of Taiwan's Foxconn, to temporarily shut down due to an outbreak of Covid-19 infections. The industrial parks will be closed until further notice, the province's People's Committee said in a statement. Foxconn confirmed its operations had been suspended. It was only in January that Vietnam gave a licence to a unit of Foxconn to build a $270 million plant to produce laptops and tablets. Foxconn was moving some iPad and MacBook assembly to Vietnam from China at the request of Apple Inc, Reuters noted citing its report in November, as the US firm weighed diversification of production to minimise the impact of the looming China-US trade war.

PAKISTAN

REMITTANCES HIT ALL-TIME MONTHLY HIGH

Remittances from Pakistani workers employed abroad rose to a record monthly high of $2.8 billion in April, 56 per cent higher than a year earlier, its central bank said on Tuesday. On a cumulative basis, remittances also surpassed the previous record. Proactive policy measures by the government and State Bank to encourage more inflows through banking channels, curtailed cross border travel due to the pandemic, and Eid holiday-related inflows led to the record levels of inflows contributing to the record levels of remittances. The inflows came mainly from Saudi Arabia at $6.4 billion, the United Arab Emirates $5.1 billion, Britain $3.3 billion and the US $2.2 billion.

JAPAN

ECONOMY SLUMPS MORE THAN EXPECTED

Japan's economy shrank more than expected in Q1 as the slow vaccine rollout and resurgence in Covid-19 cases hit consumption, reinforcing expectations it will lag major trading partners in emerging from the pandemic. The world's third-largest economy shrank an annualized 5.1 per cent in Q1, data released on Tuesday showed. The decline was mainly due to a 1.4 per cent drop in private consumption as curbs to combat the pandemic hit spending for clothing and dine-outs. But the bigger-than-expected contraction also reflected a surprise 1.4 per cent drop in capital expenditure, which confounded market expectations for a 1.1 per cent increase. Extended curbs are likely to keep any recovery in the current quarter modest adding to challenges for policymakers seeking to pull Japan out of the doldrums.

Banks' waiver of security over Vijay Mallya's assets upheld

A consortium of Indian banks led by the State Bank of India on Tuesday moved a step closer in their attempt to recover debt from loans paid out to Vijay Mallya's now-defunct Kingfisher Airlines after the High Court in London upheld an application to amend their bankruptcy petition, in favour of waiving security over the embattled businessman's assets in India.

Chief Insolvencies and Companies Court (ICC) Judge Michael Briggs handed down his judgment in favour of the banks to declare there is no public policy that prevents a waiver of security rights, as argued by Mallya's lawyers.

At a virtual hearing, July 26 was set as the date for final arguments for and against granting a bankruptcy order against the 65-year-old Mallya after the banks accused him of trying to 'kick matters into the long grass' and called on the 'bankruptcy petition to be brought to its inevitable end'. "I order that permission be given to amend the petition to read as follows: 'The Petitioners (banks) having the right to enforce any security held are willing, in the event of a bankruptcy order being made, to give up any such security for the benefit of all the bankrupt's creditors'," Justice Briggs' judgment reads.

'There is nothing in the statutory provisions that prevent the Petitioners from giving up security,' he notes. Mallya's barrister, Philip Marshall, had referenced witness statements of retired Indian judges in previous hearings to reiterate that there is 'public interest under Indian law' by virtue of the banks being nationalised. *PTI*

RBI permitting India Inc to set up funds in GIFT City a big boost to IFSC

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

INDIAN corporates can now set up funds in the Gujarat GIFT City, which is considered an overseas tax jurisdiction, and the fund can be invested back into India without the same being treated as round-tripping.

In a recent move, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to treat investments by Indian sponsors of a fund in the GIFT City as overseas direct investment, paving the way for more Indian investors floating funds in GIFT City to invest in the country. Experts say, the move is significant as, in the absence of clarity, Indian investors would shy away from sponsoring a fund in the GIFT City.

According to Anandaday Misshra, founder and managing partner, AMLEGALS, the Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of any foreign security) Regulations, 2004 does not permit investment by an Indian party into an overseas firm in the financial services sector under automatic route. But, the RBI move

The move should significantly incentivise the Indian promoters to explore GIFT as an attractive alternative to pool global investors

Siddharth Shah, partner, Khaitan & Co.

makes provision for setting up an alternative investment fund (AIF) in overseas jurisdictions, including GIFT City, under the automatic route.

Gujarat Gift City is India's only international financial services centre (IFSC). IFSCs are treated as international tax jurisdictions as they offer several tax benefits and other compliance which are not otherwise available in the country.

However, investments in the GIFT City have been slow to take off due to regulatory and other hurdles. Dhaval Jariwala, a Mumbai-based chartered accountant, says that allowing an Indian party to act as a sponsor to fund a fund set up in GIFT City would boost investment in the IFSC. "This may be a much-needed guidance for those who were looking to set up an India dedicated AIF in GIFT, sponsor contribution to which by an Indian party was being viewed as a potential round tripping of funds," he adds.

To set up a fund in the IFSC, it is mandatory to have a sponsor and a manager of the fund. The Securities and Exchange Board of India also requires the manager or sponsor to have a continuing interest in the fund of not less than 2.5 per cent of the corpus or $750,000 whichever is lower, in the form of investment in the fund. However, some experts believe that the RBI circular still leaves some ambiguity which needs addressing. "In the case of sponsor contributions to AIF in IFSC, the regulations specify only the minimum contribution and there is no cap on the maximum contribution. If the provision of investment through automatic route apply only for the minimum contribution or the entire contribution is not yet clear," Divakar Vijayasarthy, managing partner, DVS Advisors, notes.

EXPRESS READ

CCI gives nod to APSEZ acquisition

New Delhi: The Competition Commission of India (CCI) on Tuesday gave nod to proposed acquisition of additional 25 per cent stake of Adani Krishnapatnam Port Ltd by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd. The acquirer already holds 75 per cent shareholding in Adani Krishnapatnam Port. "As a result of the proposed combination acquirer will hold sole control of the target," a release stated.

Sensex surges to reclaim 50,000

New Delhi: Led by a surge in auto, IT and metal stocks, benchmark index BSE Sensex on Tuesday reclaimed the 50,000-mark by closing 612.60 points higher at 50,193.33, while the Nifty closed at 15,108.10, up 184.95 points than previous closing session. Among the sectoral indices, BSE auto index rose 3.1 per cent followed by consumer discretionary up 2.5 per cent after a two-month snag.

Clubhouse to extend Android rollout in India

BISMAH MALIK @ Bengaluru

IN the rapidly evolving apps market in India, where Zoom fatigue (read virtual fatigue) has already set in, voice conversation apps are now testing waters with nearly 500 million Android users. US-based Clubhouse, which saw 90,000 downloads from iOS users in India out of 14 million downloads globally, is set to launch on Android on Friday. Like its invite-only feature for iOS users, the audio chat app will follow the same pattern for Android users in India, which constitutes more than 95 per cent of the smartphone user base.

"Android rollout continues. Japan, Brazil & Russia coming Tuesday. Nigeria and India on Friday AM," Clubhouse said in a tweet. The rolling out of the new feature will make it a complete app and over the next few weeks, it will collect feedback from the users for any concerns, the start-up said in a statement. Clubhouse is valued at $4 billion after fresh Series C funding.

However, Clubhouse has seen a steep decline in its downloads between February and April, 2021, data sourced from analytics firm Sensor Tower revealed. There has been a 90 per cent decline in monthly installs worldwide, while in India downloads fell from 42,000 in February to 14,000 in April.

Industry watchers, meanwhile, say that the start-up will face stiff competition from social media networks like Twitter, Facebook or even Microsoft's LinkedIn which will announce voice conversation features in coming weeks. "Twitter and Facebook definitely have the advantage of a huge user base... But, when it comes to monetisation, apps like Clubhouse will be able to garner advertising revenue," Faisal Kawoosa, Founder and CEO, TechArch told this publication.

Hodgson to step down as Crystal Palace manager

Roy Hodgson, the Premier League's oldest manager at 73, is leaving his role at Crystal Palace at the end of the season after four years at the club. 'After more than 45 years of coaching, I have decided that the time is right for me to step away from the rigors of top-flight Premier League football,' Hodgson said Tuesday.

PUSHED TO THE BORDER

India's tennis players are stuck at home because of travel restrictions, unsure of next event

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @Chennai

IN three weeks' time, the Almaty ATP Challenger in Kazakhstan will begin. Normally, the likes of Arjun Kadhe and Sidharth Rawat will be looking at hotel bookings and flight options. This year? Not so much. They can't travel considering the organisers have stated a raider to go along with instructions that was mailed -- this daily has accessed the email -- to all players a few days ago.

Arjun Kadhe

"Citizens of India are NOT ALLOWED to travel to Kazakhstan according to the latest government decision," says the raider. Fair to say the likes of Rawat are despondent at the moment. Rawat has not played a competitive game for 45 days and doesn't know when he will play next. "It's become extremely difficult if you are an Indian tennis player," he says. "We don't get visas at all because we are in the travel red list. Kazakhstan would have been one option but this year that's not possible."

Even as men's singles players inside the top 200 — Sumit Nagal and Prajnesh Gunneswaran — have managed to get out of the country to keep playing, most of the rest have already gone over a month without a game.

Infact, barring Nagal, Gunneswaran and Sasikumar Mukund, who lives in Austria, no other Indian player has managed to play on the Challenger Tour or travel outside to play in the ITF circuit since April.

PLAYERS' WORLD RANK
Last meet date

Saketh Myneni 467 Delhi, **Mar 29 - Apr 4**
S Rawat 484 Delhi, **Mar 29 - Apr 4**
M Sureshkumar 637 Delhi **Mar 29 - Apr 4**
Arjun Kadhe 716 Delhi **Mar 29 - Apr 4**
Niki Poonacha 745 Delhi **Mar 29 - Apr 4**
Aryan Goveas 876 Indore **March 8 - 14**

For instance, Kadhe, who triumphed with Saketh Myneni in the men's doubles in the last professional men's tennis event held held in India (New Delhi M15), isn't even clear on the kind of paperwork required to get out of India. "Somebody tells me a letter is needed from home ministry, somebody is asking me for a letter from some other ministry... I don't really think the rules are clear at the moment. So I have decided to stay put at the moment."

Kazakhstan was an option for him as well but now both players are eyeing an ITF event in Egypt in June to get back on the circuit. While Kadhe knows he can exit the country, he's loathe to do it for multiple reasons. "I have been told sometimes immigration might send you back. You may have to serve quarantine for 10 days. And rules themselves get changed every 2-3 days so I don't want to take that chance at the moment."

Rawat goes a step further. For example, he doesn't even know if Kazakhstan will allow him even if he serves quarantine in some other country.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Finally, boxers set for cash-rich Asian meet

ANMOL GURUNG @Chennai

DUE to travel restrictions because of the pandemic, the Indian boxers had been sweating over their participation in the soon-to-begin Asian Championships in UAE. With just three days left, the Boxing Federation of India (BFI) has managed to make the impossible possible. The federation confirmed that they'll be sending a full-strength squad for the continental event.

Fior the first time, the international boxing association has announced prize money for the winners at the meet. Both men and women boxers will get the same amount. A gold medallist will get $ 10,000, silver $5000 and for bronze winners $2500 each. AIBA has released $400000.

Until late on Tuesday, the boxers and the coaches had been anxiously waiting for their fate. Travellers from India are barred from entering the Gulf country. With Asian Championships, which is slated to be held from May 24 to June 1, being the last competition ahead of the Olympics, the BFI had been in constant touch with officials from Dubai, UAE boxing federation and Asian Boxing Confederation. Because of the BFI's persistence, now the likes of MC Mary Kom and Amit Panghal will get the opportunity rub shoulders with some of the best boxers in the business and get much-needed tonic ahead of the Olympics.

"Players' best interest has always been a priority for the Boxing Federation of India and now is no different. We are thankful to the UAE Government, Indian Ambassador to UAE, Pavan Kapoor and ASBC President Mr Anas Alotaiba, who have helped us in every possible way to secure the team's travel to Dubai," BFI chief Ajay Singh said.

Though the official start date of the tournament is May 21, the team is likely to depart on 22. The competition is slated to begin a couple of days later. The Indian pugilists will be subjected to tests for coronavirus before departure.

Qualification done, Prachi eyes TOPS

FIROZ MIRZA @Chennai

PRACHI Yadav is set to become India's first paracanoe athlete at the Tokyo Paralympics, but qualification doesn't mean her struggles are over. The 25-year-old from Gwalior (Madhya Pradesh) now wishes to train abroad ahead of the marquee event and for this, she needs support from the government.

"Exposure trip abroad will be possible if she is included in TOPS (Target Olympic Podium Scheme) or get special funding from Sports Authority of India. A mail requesting the sports ministry has been sent and we are expecting a positive reply," Prashant Kushwaha, secretary-general of Indian Kayaking and Canoeing Association, said.

Already a champion para swimmer, Prachi switched to paracanoe on her coach's insistence in 2018. And it turned out to be a masterstroke. "Virender Kumar Dabas sir from LNIPE, Gwalior asked me to switch to paracanoe as I got long arms. It worked," said Prachi, who has a disability below her waist.

The International Canoe Federation (ICF) reallocated the quotas a few days ago helping Prachi, who is ranked 10th, to make the cut in women's VL2 200m event. She was supposed to compete in the qualifier scheduled in Szeged, Germany from May 13 to 15, but travel restrictions meant she had to withdraw. "I finished eighth in the 2019 ICF World Championships in Germany. Top six qualified. I also took part in the test event in Japan last year and finished 10th. This helped me when federation reallocated the quotas."

Coach Mayank Thakur, who is also the chairperson of the India Para Kayaking and Canoeing Association, played a key role in Prachi's transformation as a canoeist.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Pistol coaches to join shooting team in Croatia

ANMOL GURUNG @Chennai

WHEN the European tour was confirmed for the Olympic-bound shooters, the omission of prominent pistol coaches Samaresh Jung, Jaspal Rana and Ronak Pandit from the tour had caused some stir. A few days later, the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI), the governing body of the sport in the country, has said that Jung and Pandit are expected to join the team.

The Olympic-bound shooters are currently in Zagreb (Croatia) for a exposure-cum-competition tour. Their quarantine is expected to get over soon and upon clearing Covid tests, they are expected to resume training before departing for Osijek to compete in the European Championships (May 20 to June 6). After the event, they will be taking part in the ISSF World Cup (June 22 to July 3) before flying directly to Tokyo for the Olympics.

"Yes, these coaches will be joining the team soon. We are working on getting their visas. They are expected to leave later this week, or the next week," Rajiv Bhatia, NRAI secretary, told this daily. It is understood that high performance manager Ronak's visas process is on and is expected to fly next week. Foreign coach Pavel Smirnov had also missed the initial flight to Zagreb along with the rest of the contingent and he's set to join the team soon.

"The situation in Delhi was really disturbing. I had opted out and said that I cannot go out for this long. Now, things are improving and I think I can go," Jung said.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

EXPRESS READ

De Villiers stays retired

JOHANNESBURG: Cricket South Africa said AB de Villiers won't be coming out of international retirement ahead of T20 WC in India, saying he has decided "once and for all" to not change his mind. CSA said "discussions with AB de Villiers ended.

England rest IPL stars

LONDON: England rested IPL stars including Jos Buttler and Jonny Bairstow for the two-Test series against NZ while Jofra Archer and Ben Stokes were not considered for selection due to injuries. James Bracey and Ollie Robinson have been called up to Tests.

Difficult to give best after a long break: Thapa

VIVEK KRISHNAN @Chennai

EVER since the 2020-21 Indian Super League (ISL) season came to an end on March 13, most of India's footballers haven't kicked a ball in anger. The Indian team did have two friendlies against Oman and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) towards the end of March, but an experimental team was put out with a lot of new players and the results were far from satisfactory with UAE romping to a 6-0 win.

As India get ready to take the field for the game against Qatar in Doha on June 3 followed by matches against Bangladesh (June 7) and Afghanistan (June 15), all they will have is a two-week camp in Qatar to find their feet. While these matches are part of the qualification process for the 2022 World Cup and the 2023 Asian Cup, it is only direct qualification for the third round of Asian Cup qualifying that is within India's grasp. Among the five teams in Group E, India are currently fourth with three points.

According to midfielder Anirudh Thapa, the players were mentally focused and prepared for these games since they were always part of the schedule.

"It is obviously difficult to be focused after a long break, but we were aware that we will have matches in June. Yes, there were no sureties whether we will go or not. But we were mentally focused that we might be called for national duty. Our coaches used to send the fitness programmes that we need to do to be prepared. We were just mentally prepared and keeping ourselves fit," Thapa said during a virtual media interaction on Tuesday. Asked to elaborate on the challenge of not playing a competitive fixture for over two months, Thapa said the risk of injury and the feeling that you cannot give your best weigh heavily on the players.

"You can work on getting fit at home, but in the back of your mind, you know that you have not played a competitive game."

Full story: newindianexpress.com

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
PWD/ WATER RESOURECES DEPARTMENT
LUMPSUM CONTRACT (TWO COVER SYSTEM)
Re-Tender Notice. NIT. No: 1 SE/Spl. Project Circle, Palani/2021-2022/Dt:17.05.2021

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, sealed tenders are invited from the Registered Contractors of PWD for the following work by the undersigned up to **3.00 PM on 22.06.2021.** Prequalification application alone will be opened at **3.30 PM** on the same day.

Name of work: Construction of an Anicut across Mangarai river to feed Mayandikulam Tank near Ulagampatty at Agaram village in Dindigul West Taluk of Dindigul District. **Approximate Value of work Including GST Rs.755.00 Lakhs**
EMD **Rs.3,90,000/-.** Cost of Tender schedule +GST in **Rs.15000 + GST.** Period of Completion (Including rainy season) **12 Months.** Cost of Schedule and EMD to be remitted in favour of **The Executive Engineer, PWD., WRD., Nanganjiyar Basin Division, Palani. Dindigul District.**

1. Last date of receipt of requisition for tender documents **21.06.2021 up to 5.45 P.M**
2. Details of Pre-Qualification applications, price tender schedule and conditions are available in the website at free of cost
1) http:www.tenders.tn.gov.in 2) http:www.tntenders.gov.in

Superintending Engineer, PWD., WRD.,
Special Project Circle, Palani

DIPR/1555/Tender/2021

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA e mail - serw_kpd@yahoo.com
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
0-212 **RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, KENDRAPARA - JAJPUR**
No. Tender Online RCK- 09/21 Letter No.- 1210 Date: 17.05.21

e-Procurement NOTICE

1. Name of the work : Construction of MCS Building Works in the District of Jajpur.
2. Class of Contractor : A & Special Class as specified in the **column 7 of the Annexure.**
3. Time for Completion : As specified in the **Column-8 of the Annexure.**
4. Detail Projects : **As per Annexure attached**
5. Other Details :

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding		Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender	
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Kendrapara-Jajpur	Tender Online RCK-09/21	20.05.2021 at 11.00 AM	05.06.2021 to 5.00 PM	04.06.2021 up to 5.00PM	07.06.2021 at 12.00 PM	16.06.2021 at 12.00 PM

Further details can be seen from the website **www.tendersorissa.gov.in**
Sd/- Superintending Engineer,
Rural Works Circle, Kendrapara-Jajpur
OIPR- 25129/11/0006/2122

TAMIL NADU WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD
INVITATION OF BIDS – TWO COVER – ITEMWAR TENDER SYSTEM (II call)

IFB No.	F.Thoothukudi UGSS/ ABD /DO II / CW /2021 /Dt.12.05.2021
Fund	Smart city Funding
Eligibility	Registered Class I Bidders (Civil)
Tender Invitee	The Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, No.1/1, Sambakulam, Ganesh Nagar, Mattuthavani, Madurai - 625 007
Sale of Bid & Place of Sale	**20.05.2021 to 18.06.2021 upto 17.45 hours at O/O the Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, Sewerage Division, Thoothukudi, Tamilnadu** by cash or by Demand Draft Rs.1000 + GST in favour of Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, Sewerage Division, Thoothukudi payable at Thoothukudi.
Downloading website	(Free of cost) at **www.tenders.tn.gov.in** and **www.twadboard.tn.gov.in.**
Pre Bid meeting	**07.06.2021** at **11.00 hours** at the office of the Tender Invitee
Bid Submission	**21.06.2021** before **15.00 hours** at the office of the Tender Invitee in person or through post. This office will not be held responsible for postal delay, if any.
Bid opening	**21.06.2021** at **15.30 hours** at the office of the Tender Invitee

Sl. No.	Name of work	Approximate value of work (Rs.in Crore including GST)	Bid security (Rs.in lakhs)
1	Providing Underground Sewerage Scheme to left out areas in Area Based Development Area of Thoothukudi Smart City (Period of completion - 24 months)	**96.30**	**72.25**

DIPR/ 1562 /TENDER/2021 SAVE WATER, CONSERVE WATER, EVERY DROP COUNTS
Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, Madurai

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DISTRICT HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE OFFICE KOPPAL
No.: Store/KKRDB/12/2021-22 Date: 17.05.2021
SHORT TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through E-Procurement)
E-procurement Short Tender has been called for the supply of **B-Type O2 Cylinder with Accessories and Dura Cylinder with Accessories** for the Treatment of COVID-19 to the Various Hospitals of Koppal District under the Kalyana-Karnataka Regional Development Board Kalaburgi. (Macro project 2021-22).
(1) Last date and time for filing of tenders: **02.06.2021** on before at **5:00 PM. (2)** Opening Date of Technical Bid: **04.06.2021** at **11:00 AM. (3)** Opening Date of Financial Bid: **07.06.2021** at **11:00 AM.**
E-Mail : dhokoppal@gmail.com
Sd/-
District Health and Family Welfare Officer Koppal
DIPR/Koppal/66/Alaknanda/2021-22

Government of Karnataka
HINDU RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS & CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS DEPARTMENT
EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OFFICE
SRI VINAYAKASWAMY TEMPLE
Jayanagar 4th Block, Bangalore-560 011. Phone: 080-22445499
No. S.V.T /C.R./ 47/2020-21 Date: 18-05-2021
RE-TENDER NOTICE (THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT)
Tenders are invited from **Sri Vinayakaswamy Temple,** 4th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore for the year **2021-22** (from 01-06-2021 to 31-03-2022), various 02 tenders are mentioned hereunder and notice is published through E-procurement www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Sl. No.	Tender Details	File No.	Submission of Tender Form through online		Date of Opening of Tender
			from	to	
1.	Security Guard	SVT/CR/47/2020-21 Call-3	19-05-2021	28-05-2021 11.00 am	29-05-2021 11.00 am
2.	Accountant and Computer Operator	SVT/CR/48/2020-21 Call-3	as above	as above	as above

Sd/- Executive Officer,
Sri Vinayakaswamy Temple,
4th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560 011.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ನಗರ ನೀರು ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮತ್ತು ಒಳಚರಂಡಿ ಮಂಡಳಿ
ಜಲಭವನ, 3ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, 1ನೇ ಘಟ್ಟ, 1 ನೇ ಹಂತ, ಬಿಟಿಎಂ ಬಡಾವಣೆ, ಬನ್ನೇರುಘಟ್ಟ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು – 560 029. ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 080 41106536
ಇ-ಮೇಲ್: kwbeebng@gmail.com ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ : https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ
(ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ)
KWB/EE/BNG/AE-2/JLB-Outsource/222/2021-22 dtd: 17-05-2021 ಮತ್ತು ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 2966
ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ವಿವರ: 2021-22ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ವಾರ್ಷಿಕ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಯಡಿ ಕ.ನ.ನೀ.ಸ ಮತ್ತು ಒ.ಚ ಮಂಡಳಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಕಛೇರಿ ಜಲಭವನ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸುವ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ
ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ: ರೂ.52,33,196/-(ಜಿ.ಎಸ್.ಟಿ ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ)
ಭದ್ರತಾ ಠೇವಣಿ: ಇಲ್ಲ **ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಕಾಲಾವಧಿ:** 12 ತಿಂಗಳು
1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ: 19–05–2021 ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ. 2) ಪ್ರಿ–ಬಿಡ್ ಸಭೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ: 24–05–2021 ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. 3) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ: 03–06–2021ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5.30ರ ವರೆಗೆ. 4). ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ: 05–06–2021 ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ.
ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ ದೂರವಾಣಿ–080–41106536 ಯಿಂದ ಅಥವಾ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಸಹಾಯವಾಣಿಯಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.
ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು,
ಪಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ/ಬೆಂ.ನಗರ/381/ಆಕಾರ್/2021–22 ಕನನೀಸ ಮತ್ತು ಒ.ಚ ಮಂಡಳಿ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.
ಕೋವಿಡ್–19. ಆತಂಕ ಬೇಡ: ಮುನ್ನೆಚ್ಚರಿಕೆ ಇರಲಿ.
ಮಾಸ್ಕ್ ಧರಿಸಿ | 6 ಅಡಿ ದೈಹಿಕ ಅಂತರ ಪಾಲಿಸಿ | ಕೈಗಳ ಸ್ವಚ್ಛತೆ ಕಾಪಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಿ

Government of India
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
Plant Operation and Maintenance Division, Mysuru,
CORRIGENDUM-I
Tender no: BARC/MYS/PO&M/JJ/COMP/PP/2021
Name of work: Machining of Diaphragm Compressor piston ring & piston housing.
With reference to above, the tender sale period is revised as mentioned below:

SL.NO	Tender terms	Existing terms	Revised terms
1	Tender sale period	03/05/2021 to 12/05/2021 Till 16.00 Hrs	03/05/2021 to 04/06/2021 Till 16.00 Hrs
2	Due date & time for submission of tender	13/05/2021 Upto 15.00 Hrs	07/06/2021 Upto 15.00 Hrs
3	Date & time of opening of tender	13/05/2021 on 15.05 Hrs	07/06/2021 on 15.05 Hrs

All other terms and conditions are as per NIT dated 25/03/2021
Sd/- Chief Engineer, BARC
For and on behalf of President of India

Government of India
Department of Atomic Energy
Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration & Research
1-10-153/156, AMD Complex, Begumpet, Hyderabad
ADMINISTRATION
NOTIFICATION FOR EXTENSTION OF DATES OF VARIOUS ACTIVITIES OF NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
NIT No.AMD/Admn-IV/ET-1/2021-22 Date: 12.04.2021
In view of the situation prevailing due to COVID-19 and lockdown in various States in the country, the dates of various activities of NIT No.AMD/Admn-IV/ET-1/2021-22, dated 12-04-2021 published in news papers on 26.04.2021 for the work - "Engaging agency to conduct end-to-end on-line recruitment process for recruitment of Scientific/Technical/Administrative/Auxiliary posts in AMD through Direct Recruitment mode" have been extended. Please visit AMD's website <www.amd.gov.in> or www.tenderwizard.com/DAE for dates and details. For further clarification, please contact on 040- 27776417/320.

RAICHUR, BALLARI & KOPPAL DISTRICT CO-OP MILK PRODUCERS SOCIETIES UNION LTD.,
Ballari Dairy,Near fire Station, Sanjay Gandhi Nagar, Ballari-583104.
Ph.No. 08392-267158 e-mail: mdrbkmul@gmail.com
No: RBKMU/PUR/E-PROC/2021/300 Date: 18.05.2021
TENDER NOTIFICATION (CALL-2)
(thorugh e-Procurement Portal Only)
The Raichur, Ballari & Koppal Districts Co-op Milk Producers Societies Union Ltd, Ballari invites. E-procurement Tenders in Two cover system (Technical & Financial Bid) from Eligible tenderers.

Sl.No	E-Procurement Tender No	TENDER DETAILS	EMD (in Rs)
1	RBKMUL/PUR/GVT/Tanker/2021/ call-2	PROVIDE MILK TANKER FOR GANGAVATHI BMC ROUTE	50000/-
2	RBKMUL/PUR/BLY/TANKER/2021/call-2	PROVIDE MILK TANKER FOR BALLARI BMC ROUTE	50000/-
3	RBKMUL/PUR/SND-2 /TANKER/2021/call-2	PROVIDE MILK TANKER FOR SINDHANUR-2 BMC ROUTE	50000/-
4	RBKMUL/PUR/SND1/TANKER/ 2021 /call-2	PROVIDE MILK TANKER FOR SINDHANUR-1 BMC ROUTE	50000/-
5	RBKMUL/PUR/HADAGALI/ TANKER/2021/call-2	PROVIDE MILK TANKER FOR HADAGALI ROUTE	50000/-
6	RBKMUL/PUR/HARAPANAHLLI/TANKER/2021/call-2	PROVIDE MILK TANKER FOR HARAPANAHALLI ROUTE	50000/-
7	RBKMUL/PUR/H.BHALLI-2 /TANKER/2021/call-2	PROVIDE MILK TANKER FOR H.B.HALLI-2 BMC ROUTE	50000/-
8	RBKMUL/PUR/H.BHALLI-1 /TANKER/2021/call-2	PROVIDE MILK TANKER FOR H.B.HALLI-1 BMC ROUTE	50000/-
9	RBKMUL/PUR/KOPPAL/TANKER/2021/call-2	PROVIDE MILK TANKER FOR KOPPAL BMC ROUTE	50000/-

1) Tender schedule down loading date from 19.05.2021 to 17.07.2021 (2) Tender Pre Bid Meeting on 03.07.2021 at 11.00 AM 3) Last Date of Submission of Tenders 19.07.2021 at 5.00PM (4) Time & Date of Technical Tender Bid: 22.07.2021 at 11.00am. (5) www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in
For Raichur, Ballari & Koppal Milk Union Ltd., Bly
Sd/- MANAGING DIRECTOR

IN CASE YOU ARE SCHEDULED TO GET A VACCINE SHOT, HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Pre-vaccination: Get good sleep the night before and keep yourself hydrated
- Post-vaccination: Minor side-effects are common. Rest out post-jab period completely and slow down your activities. Drink plenty of water. Don't skip meals. Avoid smoking and alcohol completely especially 4 days prior to getting vaccinated and a week to 10 days after that, as it can reduce the antibody response to the vaccine

Luke Coutinho
Lifestyle coach and author

SIMPLE COVID LIFE HACKS

If there is something that is spreading more than the coronavirus, it is the fear and anxiety concerning this unforgettable pandemic and how it may affect our lives in terms of health, careers wise, finances and relationships etc.

To begin with, let us understand what fear and anxiety actually is. Often dreaded, fear and anxiety are your body's natural response to whatever is happening around us. It is important for us to switch to a state of "fight and flight", because it springs us up into action to do what we can in order to save ourselves from the coronavirus. It is like a fight for our survival.

The problem is when we stay stuck in this fear for too long, allow it to consume us and take no action to diffuse it.

So, yes. With all the stress and anxiety around you, not to mention acute shortages in medical supplies, it is normal to feel this way, but we also need to understand that our fear gets us nothing and does nothing to make us feel better.

In fact, science today is showing us how stress and anxiety cripples our immune system, raises our blood sugar levels, increases blood pressure, inflammation, further shortens breathing patterns and so much more — putting us in a vicious cycle.

Ever since Covid-19 started, we have had thousands of patients come to us and still continue to. Some do need hospitalisation and some unfortunately succumb to the virus. But what about the majority of the people who are asymptomatic and are recovering well at home? They have made some simple lifestyle changes to handle their situation better. You can be one of them too, if you start doing what they did too to feel better.

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

SOME OF THE THINGS YOU CAN DO RIGHT NOW

1

STAY AT HOME

The easiest and powerful action you can take right now is to stay at home. This is not just for you, but everyone else, as each one of us are involved in breaking or building the Covid spread chain

2

REST ENOUGH REST AND SLEEP –

No matter how many spices and immune boosting supplements you are popping, a lack of sleep is the foremost thing you need to fix. Numerous scientific and clinical studies around sleep, low immunity, delayed recovery have been done, and yet we take this natural phenomenon for granted. Honour this beautiful mechanism of sleep and give yourself quality sleep every single night whether you are preventing covid, overcoming it or already have

3

LOAD UP ON IMMUNITY BOOSTING NUTRIENTS LIKE VITAMIN C, ZINC, SELENIUM AND VITAMIN D3

These are core immune boosting nutrients, and is being prescribed medically across the globe. They are responsible for growth, repair, recovery, reducing inflammation of the lungs, generating an immune response, and a lot more. We may get them through food, but at this stage if it's important for you to include the supplements for a more potent effect, please check with your doctor and get started soon

- **Vitamin C sources –** Lemons, oranges, pineapple, amla, guava, bell peppers, papaya
- **Zinc sources –** Pumpkin seeds, kidney beans, boiled chickpeas, sunflower seeds, prawns, oysters, crabs, cashew nuts, almonds, eggs, meat and chicken, ethically sourced dairy.
- **Selenium sources -** Brazil nuts, whole eggs, cottage cheese, mushrooms, ethically sourced dairy
- **Vitamin D3 –** immunity cannot function without the basics, and this vitamin is your immunity's basic need and its best to keep your levels close to the upper limit. Mostly you will need a supplement for this, but natural sources that can give you some amount of Vitamin D are, sunlight, mushrooms, whole eggs

4

CONSUME ADEQUATE PROTEIN – PROTEIN IS THE BUILDING BLOCK OF EVERY SINGLE CELL OF YOUR BODY, INCLUDING YOUR IMMUNE CELLS

- Veg sources – green peas, lentils, legumes, beans, roasted chana or sattu. Even a simple khichdi can be a suitable option for you
- Non veg sources – well-cooked free-range eggs, mercury free fish, meat, chicken

5

STEAM INHALATION

Doing this will also help loosen up the chest, nasal and sinus congestion and loosen up the excess mucous which makes it easy to expel. Add a pinch of carom seeds (ajwain), turmeric powder and 2-3 drops of eucalyptus oil to the steamer and inhale for 3-5 mins.In case you have way too much mucous, try cutting down on dairy as that might aggravate it

MAKE SOME PUMPKIN SOUP – ADD A BOWL OF THIS IMMUNITY BOOSTING SOUP TO YOUR LUNCH OR DINNER

6

Recipe - 1 red onion, 2 medium carrots, 1 handful red lentils (pre-soaked), 1 handful split peas (pre-soaked), 1 cup pumpkin (yellow), 1 tbsp fresh ginger garlic paste, 4 cups water, Seasonings – Pink Himalayan salt, black pepper, red paprika, turmeric, thyme – to taste, 1 tbsp fresh parsley, chopped, 1 cup spinach leaves, 1 tbsp cold pressed coconut oil

Method: ● Peel and slice onions, slice carrots. ● Heat a tablespoon of coconut oil in a pot, then add the vegetables and cook on medium, stirring regularly, for a couple of minutes, until the vegetables soften. ● Then add lentils, split peas, pumpkin, ginger garlic paste, spinach and pour over water. Add more water if needed. ● Season to taste, bring to a boil and then cook on low flame for about 30 minutes, or until the lentils and vegetables are cooked thoroughly. ● Remove about half the soup from pot and blend it with an immersion blender. ● Blend until smooth to your liking, then add it back to the rest of the soup and stir to combine.

7

MAGIC LUNG TEA – A SIMPLE BREW OF SELECTIVE SPICES TO TAKE THE LOAD OF YOUR LUNGS BY HELPING THEM DECONGEST AND TO LOWER INFLAMMATION

Recipe - An inch piece of mashed ginger/1 tsp dried ginger powder, 1 small cinnamon stick, ½ tsp of basil leaves (fresh/dry), 1 tsp of oregano dry (or fresh leaves), 3 peppercorns, 2 crushed cardamom, 1 to 2 crushed garlic cloves, ¼th tsp of fennel seeds, a pinch of ajwain and ¼th tsp cumin seeds

Boil together in water for 10 minutes and let it simmer. Strain and sip warm

8

INVEST IN LIGHT MOVEMENT AND SIMPLE BREATHING EXERCISES

If you feel tired, ensure complete rest. If you can, get a light walk done at home during the day and include light yoga asanas and simple breathing exercises or pranayama if you feel up to it

A little bit of movement will help you handle inflammation better. Do not overtrain at the same time. Some breathing exercises you can try -

Box breathing

This is an all-round exercise for the lungs, consisting of an inhale, hold, exhale and hold, all timed equally, e.g.: 4:4:4:4 or 8:8:8:8

- Sit with your back straight, chin parallel to the ground, and shoulders rolled slightly backwards
- Inhale for 4 seconds, hold for 4 seconds and exhale for 4 seconds
- Hold for 4 seconds (it is the space between exhalation and next inhalation)
- If you cannot hold for 4, do it for 2 seconds. This space is very powerful, as it helps increase lung capacity and haemoglobin to hold onto oxygen. It also enables our body to hold on to enough oxygen, even if our breathing pattern has shortened, in times of stress, for example

Balloon breathing

A simple activity of blowing up the balloons itself turns out to be a powerful exercise for the lungs. It works in intercostal muscles that are responsible for the movement of diaphragm and rib cage during breathing and are called as respiratory muscles too. The more effective the movement of intercostal muscles, the better is our lung capacity and the ability of the lungs to maintain the oxygen supply to our body. In fact, this exercise is also scientifically proven to boost oxygen saturation levels (SPO2) in our blood.

Blowing up balloons also turns out to be a kid friendly activity. In case there are no balloons available at home, one could simply take a deep inhale through the nose, and exhale with pursed lips through the mouth, as if they were blowing air into the balloon

9

KEEP YOUR MIND BUSY AND ENGAGED –

Use your energy towards things that are productive and make you feel good. One of the most assured ways to feel happy is to genuinely help people without setting any expectations. Help during these times doesn't have to be always about money and donations. If you can, do it. But if you can't, help in any other way you can. Offer prayer or group prayer, visualise your loved ones healing and feeling better soon, give a call to people you know and ask about their well-being. Prayer along with faith and belief, followed by surrendering the outcome is a powerful thing. There are many ways to help

10

KNOW WAYS TO HANDLE PAIN, ACHES AND FATIGUE DURING OR POST-COVID

PAIN IS MOSTLY AN OUTCOME OF INFLAMMATION DUE TO INFECTION. OTHER THAN THE MEDICINES YOUR DOCTOR PRESCRIBES, HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Have some turmeric, ginger, garlic, cloves, cinnamon and black pepper in your kitchen? Great! Load up on these anti-inflammatories in teas, spice powders, concoctions, dals or soups. You can also add a tsp of coconut oil or ghee to it as this combination works best in the presence of fat.
- Drink a glass of freshly squeezed sweet lime or mausambi juice (in case your sugar levels are high, make an informed decision)
- Add a tsp to a tbsp of pure extra virgin olive oil and drizzle it over your salad or hummus
- Unsalted nuts – almonds, walnuts, cashew nuts
- Omega 3 rich foods – flaxseeds, fatty fish, chia seedsA cup of freshly brewed loose green tea or black tea leaves sans sugar also helps reduce inflammation
- A little bit of red or green chilies with food (not in case you have hyperacidity or ulcers)
- Remove all the inflammatory foods – sugar, processed meats, junk foods, refined carbs, refined oils. Avoid cigarettes and alcohol

11

LASTLY, BE MINDFUL OF THE CONTENT YOU ARE CONSUMING THROUGH NEWS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

The kind of content you are consuming around this time will go a long way in keeping you mentally and emotionally healthy. Disconnect or cut down on your time spent on social media and watching news, especially if you are sensitive to these things. Avoid getting sucked and entangled into mindless scrolling, forwarded messages, gossips and rumours that only fuel more and more fear in you

While some people may die, there are a lot more who are recovering, but news channels and social media hardly show their stories. It is mostly about deaths, cases and the suffering. There is a difference between staying informed and getting so sucked into the news that it starts to consume you

So, while there is fear, anxiety and distress all around, what action are you taking? Being a victim and staying stuck in fear is not going to help you, butusing fear to fuel you into action andsmartly responding to this fear with the necessary lifestyle changes, definitely will. And remember, every human has this in-built powerful mechanism to "adapt". We will adapt if we allow ourselves to. Stop resisting, remove obstacles and allow the amazing human creation i.e., your body to adapt to all that's happening. All you can do is build a strong you, stay safe at home, pray and take whatever right action you can

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS GROUP

STAY CALM STAY SAFE

Manage your fear and anxiety during the novel coronavirus outbreak. Effectively use your time at home by doing yoga, meditation, exercise and self-learning. Most importantly, take this opportunity to do all the things you wanted to at home, adhering to COVID protocols all the while.
Stay calm and stay healthy.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS | THE NEW SUNDAY EXPRESS | The MORNING STANDARD | THE SUNDAY STANDARD
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WEDNESDAY

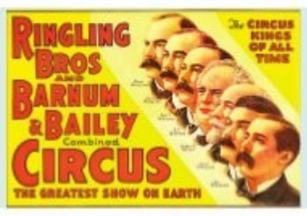
DAY'S DIARY

Circus comes to town

Ringling Bros. was founded in Baraboo at Wisconsin on May 19, 1884 by five of the seven Ringling brothers. The family ran the circus until 1967 when it was sold to Feld Entertainment

TOURING US

They began adding circus acts to their show and organised their first small circus in Baraboo, Wisconsin, from there they toured the US Midwest



EXPANSION

In 1890, Ringling Brothers loaded their circus wagons on railway cars, enabling them to make a much longer tour, acquiring others like Barnum & Bailey Circus

BEGINNING OF FAME

In 1888, the Ringlings purchased their first elephant, a creature that most Midwesterners had not seen in the late 1800s

Roshini Prakash explores her creative side

PG 4

REMEMBERING A GIANT

On his 83rd birth anniversary, friends and contemporaries of Girish Karnad recall the democratic film director, the tough mentor, and the humble man he was

Girish Karnad directing Arundhati Nag in *Bikhre Bimb*, in 2006, which marked Karnad's return to direction after a break of 30 years. Also seen, Kannada director K M Chaitanya

MONIKA MONALISA

Writers, or for that matter all artistes, are considered great because of their ability to tell you things about the human condition, or the world, or simply touch you in a very personal way, long after the work was originally created. Playwright, actor and film director Girish Karnad did this time and again, and particularly remarkably with plays such as *Tughlaq*, a political drama, and *Bikhre Bimb*, which was technically and digitally ahead of its time.

On his 83rd birth anniversary, Karnad's contemporaries recall their long association with him, and how he touched their lives.

Director K M Chaitanya says his life would have taken a different course had it not been for a fateful meeting with Karnad in 1996. "I was supposed to travel to Mumbai that year for a new job. Since my father knew Karnad, he asked me to meet him to learn a thing or two about the city. After we got chatting, he asked me if he could change my mind and offered me a job to assist him for a movie," says Chaitanya.

He agreed, thinking that it would be a one-time thing. But he eventually ended up working on many projects including *Antaral* and *Swarajnama*.

Learning the tricks of the trade from the man himself was intimidating, Chaitanya recalls fondly. For one, Karnad was very particular about punctuality.

"He was the kind of mentor who would train you and if you took the work seriously, he would not hesitate to give you complete control. He was a very democratic director and had a habit of discussing the script with his team and everyone was allowed to dispute his idea and propose a new one," Chaitanya says.

Actor Padmavati Rao, who had known him for 42 years, remembers him for his deep understanding of history, literature and human emotions, all of which he brought to his work, and which keep him relevant.

"During the shooting of *Ondanondu Kaaladalli*, all of us including Karnad, the director, stayed in tents in a village which has now been submerged to make way for a dam. He could have stayed in a posh hotel 18km in Belagavi, but he did not. I haven't seen that happen since in my interactions with people in the Tamil, Malayalam, Marathi and Hindi cinema industries," says Rao.

> *He was the kind of mentor who would train you and if you took the work seriously, he would not hesitate to give you complete control* - K M Chaitanya, director

Padmavati Rao, actor

On October 2, 2019, film and theatre director Arjun Sajnani premiered Karnad's last play, *Crossing to Talikota*. Both of them had worked closely on the production since Sajnani started work on it in April 2019. "That was unusual for Girish, since he normally never 'interfered' once he had given a script to the director. This time it was an added bonus for me to have him in my corner... Such a shame that he wasn't there for the opening," recalls Sajnani.

He admits that fortunately for him, some of his best work has come with Karnad's vision – *Crossing to Talikota*, *Tughlaq*, *Fire and Rain*, and *Agni Varsha*-the movie.

"It was my honour and privilege to get two original scripts from him. Unfortunately, *Crossing*'s run was spoilt by Covid and I'm sitting with the production all ready to go whenever the time comes," he says.

KNOW YOUR CITY

Arun Prasad, city-based history researcher, unravels interesting facts about Bengaluru in this weekly quiz series. So it's time for you to find out how familiar you are with the city, beyond its heritage buildings, IT parks and the pub culture.

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Know Your City Quiz'**

Correct answers and names of first three respondents with right answers will be featured in CE on Thursday.

QUESTIONS

1. Swami Vivekananda visited Bengaluru in November 1892, about a year before his historic address at the World Parliament of Religions at Chicago in 1893. It was Dewan K Sheshadri Iyer who introduced Vivekananda to the Maharaja of Mysore, Sri Chamarajendra Wodeyar who in turn helped him travel to Chicago. Where in Bengaluru is the Vivekananda Ashram located?
2. What is the present name of the town near Bengaluru which was earlier named 'Closepet' after the British army officer Sir Barry Close who played a crucial role during the siege of Seringapatam at the end of third Anglo-Mysore war?
3. It was Tipu Sultan who strengthened the fortress at Nandi Hills which was originally built by the Gangas. The impregnable fortress was stormed by by the army of Cornwallis in 1791 during the third Anglo-Mysore war. Which district is Nandi Hills situated in?

CITY READ

COMPANY CONTRIBUTES ₹2 CRORE TOWARDS COVID RELIEF

Prestige Foundation, the CSR division of Prestige Group, has donated over Rs 2 crore towards those affected by Covid-19 and in immediate need of financial assistance, since April 2021. The foundation has also equipped an additional wing of Vimalalaya Hospital in Electronics City, an establishment run by the congregation of FIH sisters (Franciscan Sisters of Immaculate Heart of Mary) and offers affordable healthcare, with 24 general ward beds, medical equipment such as ventilators, oxygen tanks, bed monitors, a 450-litre liquid oxygen cylinder, bypass machines and injection pumps.

Through 3D images and QR codes, Bengaluru firm brings tigers, bears and butterflies to life on a simple postcard

Spirit of the animal

EXPRESS FEATURES

DID you know that leopard tails are longer than any other big cat's? Or that tiger stripes are unique in nature, which help in identification? You can learn more such facts through a series of postcards. City-based firm FlippAR's newest project involved an order for a set of five postcards from the Bannerghatta Biological Park (BBP), featuring a map of the Park, the Southern Birdwing butterfly, leopards, tigers and sloth bears. The first two were launched two months ago and the rest were out in April.

People can get an idea of some characteristics of the animal, how Bannerghatta Biological Park came to acquire them, who looks after them and so on

Vivek Mahaveer Jain, founder, FlippAR

"The idea was to use these as an educational tool to create more awareness about these animals," says Vivek Mahaveer Jain, founder of FlippAR, a Bengaluru-based company that develops augmented reality (AR) applications.

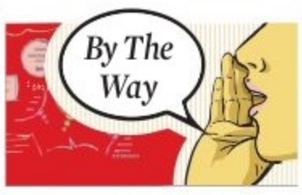
The firm has in the past produced similar AR-enabled postcards on landmarks in the city. To unlock these features, one has to scan the postcard with the FlippAR app. This time, the postcards feature 3D figures of the animals, along with information in English and Kannada. "People can get an idea of some characteristics of the animal, how the park came to acquire them, who looks after them and so on," says Jain.

Work on the project began four months ago, with all artwork created in-house at FlippAR. The team interacted closely with BBP officials to ensure all information and pictorial representation of the animals was accurate. "If you look at the leopard postcard, it shows the animal perched on a branch, against the backdrop of high-rise buildings. The team at BBP paid great attention to detail. Even something minor like how the leopard sat was looked into to ensure we got the specifics right," explains Jain.

Each creature featured on these postcards was chosen for a reason. The Southern Birdwing butterfly is the official state butterfly, whereas tigers were chosen because according to the 2018 census, Karnataka takes second position in the number of tigers in the wild at 524. The leopard and sloth bear were chosen due to the man-animal conflict that often involves them.

"There have been many instances where these animals have come across human establishments. So we wanted to highlight some dos and don'ts in case one were to encounter a leopard or a sloth bear. It might help ensure safety for both humans and the animal," says Jain.

The postcards are not for sale and are available to visitors at the park. Since BBP is currently closed due to Covid-19 restrictions, people can check out the works on FlippAR's Instagram feed (@flipparworld).



BEHIND THE LENS

Aindrita Ray shared a photo of herself with some pensive questions about when this situation will end. While fans left their thoughts in the comments, director Pawan Kumar left a cheeky reply and said, "Well the pandemic did teach hubby to click pics...!!"

DONNING A NEW ROLE

After Aindrita Ray and Nidhi Subbaiah, guess who's the latest pet parent in tinsel town? Sandalwood actor Milana Nagaraj took to Instagram to share a photo of her adorable new puppy, baredly a few months old. The Love Mocktail star captioned the post, "Welcome home Romeo". Fellow actor Adhvithi Shetty who left a comment, called him a 'cutie'. No better stress-buster during lockdown than a playful pup, right?

GAME ON

A game of Snakes and Ladders that addresses the importance of following Covid-appropriate behaviour

SANATH PRASAD

SNAKES and Ladders – a game of cultural and historic significance – has also been a Covid warrior of sorts this past year, thanks to Bengaluru-based child rights activist Vasudeva Sharma.

A game which symbolically teaches one about the ups and downs in life, Snakes and Ladders has been modified to reiterate Covid-appropriate behaviour among children and adults alike.

"The board game is a symbolic representation of tackling the current health emergency. Snakes represent the obstacles and ladders represent the opportunities," says the 55-year-old.

Sharma, who is executive director of Child Rights Trust, conceptualised the modification a year ago. It was illustrated by artiste Wishvaa Winyaas and designed by Dr Shanmukhananda who works for the Kendra Sahitya Academy.

Since then, over 10,000 copies of the game have been distributed, including in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, spreading awareness about Covid-appropriate behaviour and precautions that one must take. It has also been translated into Hindi, Tamil, and Telugu.

The game starts with the message 'Health is Wealth' and takes you through the rewards of Covid-appropriate behaviour and the pitfalls of inappropriate actions: The snakes obviously represent negligent behaviour which can be fatal for oneself and others, while the ladders are rewards for observing the right health protocol.

"A lot of thought went into developing this game. We had to address many problems around Covid appropriate behaviour in such a way that it makes it fun as well as informative. This infotainment way of presenting things will actually stay in the minds of people, compared to an aggressive way of presenting information," says Sharma.

The game also addresses the mindset of being invincible against the virus by placing a snake close to the end with a message – No it's not a heroic deed. The game also sheds light on child rights protections and creates awareness about child marriage, child abuse and child labour.

Sharma acknowledges that there's no guarantee that learning from the game will result in action, but maintains that imparting information is important. "The game translating into the right actions is still a question. But it is important that with such initiatives, the message reaches people at the right time," says Sharma.

In this version of the game, snakes represent the obstacles to containing the pandemic and ladders represent the protocol to be followed

WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE

GET GROOVING

Sign up your children for a programme that will make them dance to the tunes of joyful music. The entertainment session focuses on relaxing kids by getting them to groove to 30 minutes of music. **When:** May 21 onwards **Where:** Zoom, Details: bookmyshow.com

BRUNCH TIME

Aloft Bengaluru Cessna Business Park, a Marriott International Hotel, is home delivering a brunch spread that includes soups, salads, desi chaats, pastas, tandoori items, biryanis, a selection of Indian and international main courses and more.
When: Sundays
Details: Call 8884452271

PLAY TIME

Ranga Shankara's latest digital programme is called 'View from the 4th Row'. Single-camera recordings of plays, recorded as an academic archiving exercise, will now be made available to audiences. 'Sangeet Bari' will be available for viewing on Ranga Shankara's YouTube channel (RangaShankaraTheatre). **When:** 10 am, May 21

BIRYANI BINGE

ITC Hotels expands its food delivery network with its second cloud kitchen in Bengaluru, and catering will be handled by the kitchens of ITC Windsor. Their biryani and pulao collection will be available to order for the residents of Whitefield through food aggregator Swiggy.

CATCH KISHORE DAYANI LIVE ON THE CENTRAL CLUB OF COMEDY SHOW AS HE SPRINGS A NEW SET OF JOKES. WHEN: MAY 22, TICKETS: BOOKMYSHOW

Covid care dabba

Grand Mercure Bengaluru at Gopalan Mall launches a care dabba, a Covid-19 care meal subscription plan. The initiative aims on providing healthy balanced meals to quarantined individuals at a subsidised price. **For details:** Call 9513289992

Science lecture

Attend this lecture on 'Contagion and Electricity: Two Ways of Talking about Connection in Dance'. **When:** May 23, 6.30pm. **Where:** Science Gallery Bengaluru YouTube channel

Weight loss camp

Yoga and spiritual guru Grand Master Akshar has launched a seven-day free online weight loss camp. The sessions can be accessed between 5 pm and 6 pm each day on his YouTube channel.

Write mode

Learn the art of writing by taking this course by Ruskin Bond. With over 70 years of experience, Bond needs no introduction. His class will provide you with the right guidance to become a good writer.
When: Till May 30
Details: bookmyshow.com

TRIATHLON SESSIONS

Triathlon coaching team - Life of Tri is conducting a month-long virtual sports session for athletes. The sessions will focus on cycling and indoor fitness routines followed by interactive sessions with experts from various fields like swimming, running, cycling, nutrition and more.
When: May 19 onwards.
Details: Life of Triathletes website

QUICK FIX

What's cooking

IN YOUR KITCHEN?
We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at cityexpresschn@gmail.com.

INSTANT WHEAT APPAM

INGREDIENTS

- **Wheat flour:** 1 cup ■ **Jaggery:** 3/4 cup ■ A few coconut pieces
- **Dry ginger powder:** 1 tsp ■ **Cardamom powder:** 1/4 tsp

METHOD

- Melt jaggery by adding little water. Strain the jaggery syrup. In a vessel, add the wheat flour and all the other ingredients.
- Add the jaggery syrup to flour. Mix well to avoid lumps. Add water as required to form into a semi thick consistency.
- Heat appam chatti with oil. When oil is hot pour the batter in appam moulds. Cook on both sides on low flame. Serve when it turns brown and crisp.

— Rama Shecar, Kochi

FIT BIT

KASHTHA TAKSHANASANA

(CHOPPING WOOD POSE)

In Sanskrit, 'Kashtha' means wood, 'takshan' means chopping and 'asana' means pose. The body appears as if it is sitting and chopping the wood and hence the name. Children tend to do this pose easily than most of the adults. Adults with a sedentary lifestyle have tight inner joints and hips and have lost the flexibility due to prolonged sitting. With the regular practice of Butterfly Pose, flexibility can be regained. It stimulates the Manipura (Solar Plexus) Chakra. It is considered best when practised early in the morning. If you are doing it in the evening make sure to have a five to six hour-gap between your practise and food.

STEPS

- Squat and make sure that your feet are one and a half feet apart from each other.
- Your knees should be fully bent and separated.
- Clasp the fingers of both hands and place them on the floor between the feet.
- Straighten the arms; keep them straight throughout the practise.
- The elbows should be in between the knees. Keep your eyes open.
- Inhale, raise the arms as high as possible above and behind the head while stretching the spine upward.
- Look up at the hand. Make a downward stroke with the arms, as if chopping wood.
- Exhale making a deep sound from the throat, removing all the air from the lungs.
- The hands should return to the floor in between the feet. The head must face forward.
- This completes one round. Practise 5 to 10 rounds.
- Beginners should try to stay in the pose for 1-2 minutes or until they feel discomfort.
- Advanced practitioners should stay for 3-4 minutes or for as long as they can.
- Finally, rest your body in Shavasana for 1-2 minutes.

BENEFITS

- Helps in overcoming the drowsiness and stiffness.
- Good massage to your vertebrae.
- Makes your spine flexible.
- Reduces symptoms of old age.
- Helps treat insomnia.
- Helps in balancing the mind, increases concentration power.
- Thinking process becomes clear.
- Alleviates stress and cures mild depression.
- Strengthens all the core muscles and increases body's stamina.
- Increases the body's resistance to back, hip and leg injuries.
- Relieves joint pains.
- Gets rid of extra belly fat.

LIMITATIONS

- Pregnant women in the second and third trimester must avoid this.
- Those who have had any recent abdominal or hip surgeries, chronic spinal issues or slip disc, very weak sacroiliac joint and GERD, should avoid this.
- Don't push yourself beyond limits. Practise under the supervision of a trained yoga teacher.

— by N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

SOUND BOARD

VEDANTA TALKS
These are talks given by Swami Sarvapriyananda at the Vedanta Society of New York (founded by Swami Vivekananda in 1894). Based on the Vedas, the sacred scriptures of India, Vedanta affirms the oneness of existence, the divinity of the soul, and the harmony of religions.
- On Apple Podcast

BELLWETHERS PODCAST
Bellwethers Podcast aims to enlighten minds with featuring some leaders, entrepreneurs and influencers from all around the world and share stories of how they achieved what everyone else thought was impossible.
- On Spotify

THEN WHAT ELSE?
Comedians Chitan and Sarvesh invite other artists to talk about anything and everything under the sun, until of course, one of them runs out of things to say and responds with the inevitable "Alright... then what else?"
- On Apple Podcasts

THE PEOPLE'S PHARMACY
Pharmacologist Joe Graedon and medical anthropologist Terry Graedon talk to leading experts to discuss their research on issues relating to drugs, herbs, home remedies, vitamins and related health topics.
- On Apple Podcast

CURIOSITY DAILY
Discovery's Cody Gough and Ashley Hamer will help you learn about your mind and body, outer space and the depths of the sea, and how history shaped the world into what it is today.
- On Google Podcast

POPULAR ON YOUTUBE

RX SOORI
A young gangster becomes infamous for his criminal activities in Andhra Pradesh. But things change when he falls in love with his childhood friend.
- Cast: Duniya Vijay, Ravi Shankar, Adi Lokesh

MALLA
Shiva, a florist's son, grows up to become a gangster. After his father is murdered, he sets out to take revenge against the culprits.
- Cast: V Ravichandran, Priyanka Upendra, Umashree

KEMPEGOWDA
Kempe Gowda, an honest police officer and a people's man, takes on a gangster, Armugam. However, the mafia leader has close connections with the bureaucrats, which keeps him safe against the law.
- Cast: Kichcha Sudeep, Ravishankar, Ragini Dwivedi

ANTARAVIRALLI
Sanjay and Nitya fall in love with each other despite facing opposition from their peers. They soon become intimate and Nitya gets pregnant, which causes problems in their lives.
- Cast: Prakhyuth Paramesh, Achyuth Kumar, Chikkanna

Scan this QR code to find out how your favourite celebs are coping with the lockdown.

WHAT'S ON TED TALKS

1 HOW WOULD YOU FINISH THE SENTENCE, "IMAGINE IF..."? BY SIR KEN ROBINSON
Sir Ken Robinson believed that humans have an inexhaustible power: our imaginations. So, how would you choose to reimagine the world? What do we take for granted? What would you change? Remember, the only limit is your own imagination.

2 HOW VIDEO GAME SKILLS CAN GET YOU AHEAD IN LIFE BY WILLIAM COLLIS
What does it take to be a pro gamer? Esports expert William Collis charts the rise of the multibillion-dollar competitive gaming industry and breaks down three skills needed to master video games like Fortnite, League of Legends and Rocket League. And watch out, Collis says: these skills can set you up for crushing it at work, too.

3 THE VALUE OF YOUR HUMANITY IN AN AUTOMATED FUTURE BY KEVIN ROOSE
In this surprisingly comforting talk, tech journalist Kevin Roose makes the case that rather than trying to compete with the machines, we should instead focus on what makes us uniquely human to futureproof your job against robots and AI.

4 WHY THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS OBJECTIVE REALITY BY GREG ANDERSON
Why do Westerners today think they're right about reality and everybody else is wrong? Anderson tears into the fabric of objective reality to reveal the many universes that lie beyond —and encourages a healthy reimagining of what other possible ways of being human could look like.

5 "ALIENS BUILT THE PYRAMIDS" AND OTHER ABSURDITIES OF PSEUDO-ARCHAEOLOGY BY SARAH KURNICK
Archaeologist Sarah Kurnick illustrates why certain misconceptions perpetuate racist and xenophobic notions of history and culture—and demonstrates how you can help debunk these dangerous, outlandish myths.

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

ARISHADVARGA (Kannada)
An aspiring actor doubling as an amateur gigolo gets caught up in a sticky situation after accepting a surprise gift from an anonymous client. Cast: Sumyuktha Hornad, Anju Alva Naik
- Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

EE KATHALO PAATRALU KALPITAM (Telugu)
Three aspiring actors investigate the story of a model linked to a murder.
Cast: Pavan Tej Konidela, Babloo Prithveeraj, Raghu Babu
- Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

YUVARATHNAA (Kannada)
A reputed college that is now on the verge of closing due to the privatisation of the education system and political reasons. The college principal fights against privatisation and the protagonist supports his vision.
Cast: Puneeth Rajkumar, Sayyeshaa Saigal, Sonu Gowda
- Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

HERO (Kannada)
A barber stumbles upon his ex-lover in the home of a notoriously bloodthirsty gang leader. Misadventures ensue when he tries to help her escape with the gangster's men in hot pursuit. Cast: Rishab Shetty, Pramod Shetty
- Watch on: Zee 5

THE LAST HOUR (Hindi, series)
A mysterious young shaman, on the run protecting a secret gift, joins hands with a seasoned city police officer to hunt down a dangerous figure from his dark past; when he falls for the officer's young daughter, he is torn between duty and love.
Cast: Sanjay Kapoor, Raima Sen, Karma Takapa, Shaylee Kishen
- Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

PHOTO PREM (Marathi)
A photophobic woman is on the journey to find a photo of herself to be put up in her eulogy.
Cast: Neena Kulkarni, Amita Khopkar, Vikas Hande
- Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

ANVESHANAM (Malayalam)
When Aravind learns that something unexpected has happened to his family, he rushes out to meet them in the hospital, only to find himself in an unforeseen situation.
Cast: Jayasurya, Shruti Ramachandran, Leona Lishoy
- Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

ENGLISH

WONDER WOMAN 1984
Though she's come into her full powers, Diana Prince maintains a low profile by curating ancient artifacts, and only performing heroic acts incognito. But soon, Diana will have to muster all of her strength, wisdom and courage as she finds herself squaring off against Maxwell Lord and the Cheetah.
Cast: Gal Gadot, Kristen Wiig, Chris Pine, Pedro Pascal
- Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD (series)
After escaping a Georgia plantation, Cora boards a train embarking on a harrowing trip as she seeks true freedom while being hunted by a notorious slave catcher.
Cast: Thuso Mdebu, Chase Dillon, Aaron Pierre, Joel Edgerton
- Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

WILD MOUNTAIN THYME
Headstrong farmer Rosemary Muldoon has her heart set on winning her neighbour Anthony Reilly's love. But Anthony seems to have inherited a family curse, and remains oblivious to his beautiful admirer.
Cast: Emily Blunt, Jamie Dornan, Jon Hamm, Christopher Walken
- Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

DUNKIRK

During World War II, soldiers from the British Empire, Belgium and France try to evacuate from the town of Dunkirk during an arduous battle with German forces.
Cast: Harry Styles, Cillian Murphy, Tom Hardy, Fionn Whitehead
- Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

SUBSCRIPTION

Amazon Prime Video: ₹129 per month

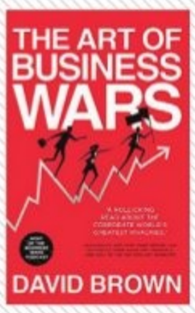
BOOK SHELF

SHAMAL DAYS

Author: Sabin Iqbal

No of pages: 316

A middle-aged bachelor heading the editorial at a newspaper in an imagined country in the Arabian Gulf, Abbas is beset by loneliness and the attendant regret - a life punctuated by ifs and maybes, and the dreariness of the dry and dusty shamal winds. Presented with the opportunity to finally bring about change in his life, will indecision get the better of him or will he be able to steer his life away from his less-than-beautiful reality? Set in the 1990s, with the escalating violence in West Asia serving as a backdrop, this is the story of Abbas and of the small newsroom that brings together people - from different backgrounds and with individual stories but shared editorial goof-ups - to a country built and run by the expatriate workforce. The book is a whimsical, ironic take on the aspirations and resentments of expatriate life in a tiny desert country and on the political unrest in the region.

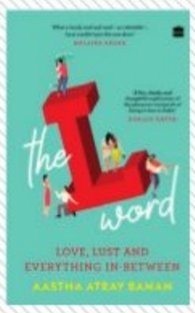


THE ART OF BUSINESS WARS

Author: David Brown

No of pages: 368

In *The Art of Business Wars*, the author frames some of the biggest business rivalries in history using revered Chinese military strategist Sun Tzu's insights and advice. Each rivalry tells a story of combined wits, strategies, and resources. Brown chronicles the rise of companies as they vanquish rivals, formulate innovative plans, and adapt to keep up with shifting needs. The goal? Stay ahead of the competition and emerge victorious. The stories in this book have lessons you can draw from - about determination, ingenuity, patience, grit, subtlety, and other traits that contribute to a victorious enterprise.

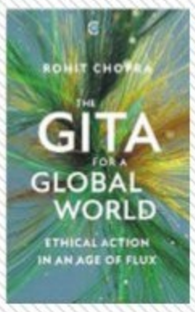


THE L WORD

Author: Aastha Atray Banan

No of pages: 176

In a world where a left swipe means you could be alone and sexless forever and taking a chance could mean you find 'The One', the question we often find ourselves asking is, what is love? *The L Word* is about modern love: from ghosting, polyamory, love in the times of social media to more every-day problems like dealing with heartbreak, infidelity and getting out of toxic relationships. Love can be many things - sometimes intimidating, frustrating, and often exhilarating - this book tells you how to make sense of it.



THE GITA FOR THE GLOBAL WORLD

Author: Rohit Chopra

No. of pages: 250

The Bhagavad Gita needs no introduction. The universe to which it refers, on the other hand, feels like it could well do with one. Marked by flux, our increasingly incomprehensible global world presents considerable ethical, political and social challenges. Could the Gita, for all its philosophical abstraction, serve as an introduction to navigating this space of capitalist modernity? What can it tell us about global warming and violence, inequality and suffering, pandemics and the savage oppression of vulnerable groups? This book is a meditation for a period characterised by crisis while also speaking to a time beyond.

KABIR BEDI: THE MAN BENEATH THE CHARISMA

The actor tells *CE* about the back story of his new book, the loves of his life and spirituality

MONIKA MONALISA

A baritone that can make anyone go weak in the knees and a flamboyant life that can make anyone envious... actor Kabir Bedi as all that, but also much more. At a virtual session organised by Prabha Khaitan Foundation, the actor spoke about, and answered questions (including from *CE*), on his recently launched autobiography, *Stories I Must Tell: The Emotional Life Of An Actor* (Westland, ₹699), his ex-wife Protima Gupta and their open marriage, the suicide of his son and more. Edited excerpts:

You have been pretty open about your life. What was the need to write this book and how did you decide to start on it?

I had a compelling need to tell my story for 10 years. I had many big stories inside me and many smaller stories too, and I would rack my brains on how I was going to tell them. Then the pandemic began and changed our lives. So I created a routine for myself. In the morning I would listen to the chirping of birds and think about what form of storytelling I would like. And it came to me like an epiphany. I realised that what I like the most is the shorter, story format. Once I was sure of that, the book kind of burst out of me like an unborn child and the first draft was ready in seven months.

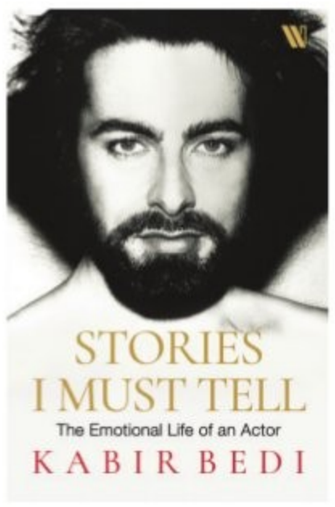
Kabir Bedi

Protima Bedi and your relationship have always grabbed eyeballs. What made you a couple that stood out?

Today's readers need to understand what it was like to be in '60s and '70s. Hippies were chanting mantras, pills gave people sexual freedom and music was taken over from Frank Sinatra by The Beatles and Rolling Stones etc. The world was changing and we wanted to be part of that new world by pushing the envelope on what was socially acceptable in India. When Protima and I started living together, it was a scandal. Later, we largely got married because Protima got pregnant. She was ok not being married, but I couldn't bear the thought of raising a child in the '60s without a father and I did love her too. There were infidelities on both my side and hers, it was an open relationship. But it didn't work for us. I felt the need for fidelity and Parveen Babi came into my life.

You've made headlines over the women in your life. Was it your ability to fall in love or the choice of woman?

... what I do know is the choices that I made, right or wrong, brought me to whatever I achieved. They were part of my journey and I have to thank them for that. It's not just the idea of being in love all the time but I also believe in the idea of marriage with a person with whom I can share my excitement and journey. No one gets married with idea of getting divorced.



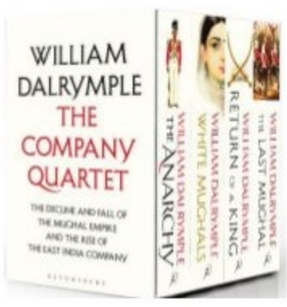
In the book you mention your son Siddharth and the mental health issues he was going through. How did you come to terms with that?

For people with mental health problems, something fundamentally changes inside them. The person that you see is not the person that you know and caregivers always have to adjust enormously. I have chronicled my battle to pull back my son from the brink. These days the treatments are much better, but those days, obviously, it didn't work that effectively. Dealing with that kind of loss is soul wrenching.

How has spirituality impacted your life?

Spirituality has been a running theme in my life. I got the Sikh tradition through my father and the Buddhist tradition from my mother. I myself became a Buddhist monk in Myanmar for a small period and also learnt meditation and Vipasana. Organised religions are very important in people's life and I have enormous respect for that.

NUGGETS

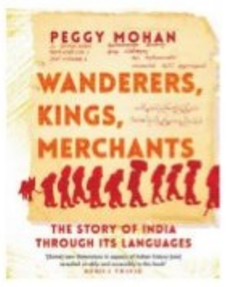


WILLIAM DALRYMPLE'S BOOKS NOW IN A BOX SET

Bloomsbury India has announced the publication *of The Company Quartet*, a four-book collection chronicling the story of the rise and fall of the East India Company. William Dalrymple's histories are now available in paperback box set. It includes four individual books - *The Anarchy, White Mughals, Return of a King* and *The Last Mughal*.

AUDIBLE INDIA ADDS HINDI CONTENT

Audible has introduced two new sections, titled 'Stories from India' featuring epic English Indian titles and another section featuring Hindi ones on their homepage. Titles for children include classics like Ruskin Bond books (*Great Stories for Children, The Essential collection for Young Readers) Panchatantra*, the oldest surviving collection of Indian fables and *Karadi Tales* such as *Tak-Tak* narrated by Boman Irani, *Little Vinayak and The Lizard's Tail* narrated by Vidya Balan, *The Monkey and the Crocodile, The Blue Jackal and The Foolish Lion* narrated by Naseeruddin Shah among others.



SESSION ON INDIA AND ITS LANGUAGES

Public Texts is a series of conversations organised by the Indian Institute of Human Settlements wherein authors talk about their latest work. The latest edition features author and linguist Peggy Mohan with her latest work, *Wanderers, Kings, Merchants: The Story of India through Its Languages*. In conversation with Anvita Abbi and Chinmay Tumbe, Peggy will discuss how this book came about, tracing India's history through its languages and some of the interesting discoveries she made while researching the book. Catch the session on Friday, May 21 at 6.30 pm on Zoom.

'The only sound was the sound of digging'

TURNING PAGES

Venita Coelho

THE call came fifteen minutes after the doctor broke the news. By that time Leena was sedated and the doctor said that she would stay that way for a couple of hours.

Anand had taken the call, wondering how his superior officer got to know so soon. But Joshi was calling about a case. 'We need you on this, Anand. It's big. It's going to be very difficult. Apparently the police were ignoring reports about missing children for years. Now we've found them.'

'Where?'

'A house. Human remains in the drain. Human remains under the floor. Bits and pieces all over the house. It's a nightmare.' He quickly briefed Anand on whatever they knew. Before he hung up he asked, 'Why are you at the hospital? Is Leena having the baby?'

Anand told him. There was a moment's silence, then Joshi said, 'Maybe now is not the best time for you to take on a case. We can give you compassionate leave.'

Anand said, 'No, Sir. I want this case.'

He could hear the relief in Joshi's voice 'I need you on this one Anand. It's-I've never seen anything like it in all these years.'

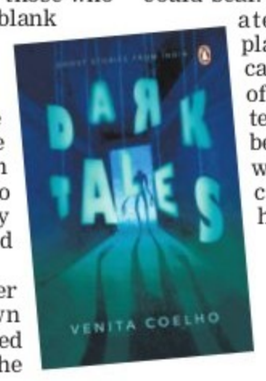
Anand arrived at the house, pushing his way past the crowds of gaping locals, the press vans and reporters. The house was the last one at the end of the lane. Beyond it, there were only fields and the dusty village of Sitla from which the area took its name. There was mayhem outside as the reporters shouted questions and locals raised slogans against the police. The only pocket of stillness was close to the door, where a group of parents stood. You could always tell the parents by the look of strained hope in the eyes of those who hadn't given up, the blank look of loss in the eyes of those who had.

Inside, the silence was startling. The house was filled with policemen, but no one spoke. The only sound was the sound of digging.

Anand would never forget walking down the narrow crooked stairs, following the scrape and thud of excavation. It led to the secret room that had been built under the servant's quarters. He arrived when the team had already started digging up the floor. Every spadeful of earth revealed one more cluster of tiny bones. They looked like the bones of little birds, of small animals. Cameras flashed continuously and the tiny room took on an unreal quality, throbbing with blinding light and the loud scrape of spades. Anand remembered stepping hurriedly back on to the last stair as he understood that every step in that dungeon trod upon the buried bones of children.

There were just so many bones that eventually the remains had to be distributed among several forensic labs and morgues. Anand did not sleep for the twenty-eight straight hours it took to dig up the entire floor and bag everything they found. He kept phoning the hospital, but Leena was sedated and the doctors planned to keep her that way for a while. Her sister was by her bedside. He was glad he did not have to go in and look down at the sad, pale face of his wife.

When he finally got home he had the hottest shower that he could bear. He needed desperately to wash that place from his skin, cauterize the horror of it with boiling water. Then he fell into bed and was asleep within seconds. The children came to him in his sleep.



(Extracted from* Dark Tales *by Venita Coelho with permission from Penguin Random House)

URBAN BOURBON

Hriday Ranjan
Writer, comedian

Representative pic

THE GHOSTS OF 2020

DO you ever think back to your life and wince in embarrassment at things you've done? We all have those incidents that pop up like unannounced ghosts in our memories. For India, 2020 will be that year – it was a year that we should all be ashamed of.

When the PM announced the lockdown a year ago, we were at 500 cases. While it did help massively in curbing a potentially disastrous first wave, the sheer lack of planning involved makes it seem like a high-school project in hindsight. Without any measures announced, and no time to prepare, 1.3 billion Indians were asked to stay indoors. Of course, we are no strangers to sudden announcements. Four years on, all the black money that was supposed to be collected with demonetisation is back in circulation according to the RBI. But we did follow the orders. I sometimes wonder if we misinterpret 'PM' not as Prime Minister, but as 'Principal Madam'.

When the lockdown was announced, we were aware of the huge number of migrant labour in our cities. Yet, there were no measures announced for their return. We watched and celebrated as a girl rode her sick father on a bicycle for 1,200 kilometers. The girl was later asked to try out for the Cycling Federation of India! On May 15 (2020), the government set up a National Migrant Information System. But on September 15, the Labour and Employment Minister reported in the Parliament that there was no data on the death of migrant labour across the country. Tell me! Doesn't this seem like a scene from a Stanley Kubrick parody?

Of course, these could all be blamed on politicians, but what about us? When the Prime Minister asked us to bang on plates as a tribute to frontline workers, we all jumped in. If you think about it, it was a very 'Indian' task – there was no real hard work or sacrifice involved, and it made us feel like we were contributing to a cause. Then we all lit candles and diyas for the frontline workers. That's like saying I shower everyday for kids in Africa! If we really cared about frontline workers, we would have used our scientific temper to prepare for a second wave that had already begun in the West.

The year 2020 was also the lowest point of news journalism. We blamed the Jamatis by circulating fake videos. We obsessed over the suicide of an actor. While other countries were stocking up on vaccines, we were busy reading WhatsApp chats of actresses. This is not to say I was above all this – I fell for it too!

By September, we were back to our old ways. Bars and pubs were open. Goa – India's only tourist destination – was flooded with domestic tourists. Communal riots, blockbuster movies - you'd think the virus was just another western conspiracy. Chief Ministers of states stepped out to address large rallies. As recently as a month ago, our Home Minister and Prime Minister were conducting election rallies. Even as doctors warned of ghastly repercussions, we patted ourselves on the back and donated vaccines to other countries.

Collectively, we embarrassed ourselves as a nation in 2020. And in 2021, we are paying the price for it. If India had a slam book, it would list 2020 as 'The year I'd like to forget'. We should all be made to stand in the corner of a room, and write an imposition 'I shall not repeat 2020 again'. I nominate Akshay Kumar, Sachin Tendulkar and Saina Nehwal for this Apology Challenge!

(Views expressed are the author's own)

A still from *Cinema Bandi*

Cinema Bandi GETS A KARNATAKA TOUCH

Praveen Kandregula's directorial debut is one of the topmost watchable films on Netflix and stars Kannada actors Vikas Vasishta and Uma YG

A SHARADHAA

CINEMA Bandi, the latest Telugu film to release on OTT on May 14, has received praises from various Telugu stars and actors, including Samantha Akkineni.

This is Praveen Kandregula's directorial debut and is currently the topmost watchable film on Netflix. Interestingly it has a Karnataka flavour with a handful of Kannada actors, including the leads, part of the cast.

The film's story explores the life of an autrickshaw driver, who gets hold of a high-end camera and desires to make a film in his village. The film is set in the interiors of Kolar, and the language is a mix of Kannada and Telugu.

"I used to stay in Bengaluru for 3 years, and I would find Telugu shopkeepers had a different way of speaking the language — the accent was quite cute. It is slang that has never been used in Telugu films. Since I was also looking for freshness in he film, location and language, I thought this was the perfect bet.

Secondly, Vikas Vasishta, who plays the main lead role as Veerababu is a familiar face in Kannada, who has worked in serials and also as a production manager. The character Manga, the vegetable seller is played by Uma Y G, who comes from a theatre background," says Praveen, adding. "A few actors who are from Karnataka were chosen because they were thorough with the slang, which was a basic necessity in our film."

About the setting of the film in Kolar, Praveen explains that he was searching for a proper village that would suit the story. They then finalised on a place in Mulbagal. "Gollapalli was a very small village with just 20 houses and was a convenient place for shooting. We were also able to use sync sound. The entire village supported us a lot," he adds.

Praveen says that Kannada film *Thithi* was one of his inspirations. The other two was *Harishchandrachi Factory* and *Supermen of Malegaon*.

Praveen is overwhelmed with the response he has been getting for the film, especially at a time like this.

"Content is king, and *Cinema Bandi* is proof. A good film will always get noticed," says the director, who also gives credit to the producers Raj and DK, and the streaming platform.

"OTT has been a good platform to showcase our product. Having said that, like every filmmaker, we also wanted a theatre release. However, with new faces it is difficult to attract an audience, and that will will take time," he adds.

I used to stay in Bengaluru for 3 years, and I would find Telugu shopkeepers had a different way of speaking the language — the accent was quite cute.

Praveen Kandregula, director

A still from *the film*

ROSHNI PRAKASH EXPLORES CREATIVE SIDE DURING LOCKDOWN

The actor has two films in her kitty but is waiting for the lockdown to be lifted to begin shooting; meanwhile, she is working on a script along with friends

CE FEATURES

Roshni Prakash, who was last seen in Hemanth M Rao's *Kavaludaari*, took some time to choose her next project in Kannada. Now, she is part of two films– Pradeep Varma's *Murphy* starring Prabhu Mundkur, as well as Nagendra Prasad's debut venture, which will be the Kannada version of the Tamil hit film, *Oh My Kadavule*. The film has her paired along with *Love Mocktail* hero, Krishna. The cast also has Sangeetha Sringeri. The yet-to-be-titled project will also have Puneeth Rajkumar making a special appearance.

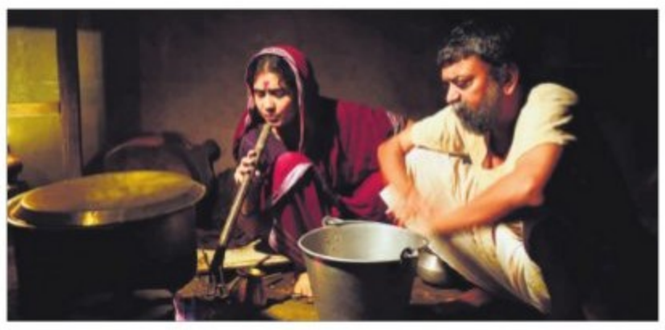
Roshni, who has completed one schedule for both the films, is waiting to resume shooting. An actor, who has made her mark in Tamil and Telugu, she was part of the latest Telugu web series, *11th hour* that released on Aha streaming channel. The crime thriller directed by Praveen Sattaru had her sharing screen space with Tamannaah Bhatia. "47 days was my last film in Telugu to release on OTT, and *11th hour* is my first web series in Telugu. I am glad to be getting good feedback for my role," says Roshni, who is careful about picking up the right kind of subjects in each language. "Post *Kavaludaari*, I was getting opportunities in Kannada, but for those which I was approached, the subjects were not working out for me. Every time I got a script, I could only see mistakes in them, and had to reject the offers," says Roshni.

She has been making use of the lockdown to the fullest to explore her creative side. The model-turned-actor has completed a diploma in Bharatanatyam and is trained by Dr. Sreelatha Vinod from Tamil Nadu Music and Fine Arts University. We also hear that Roshni is also exploring her writing skills right now.

The *Kavaludaari* heroine, who is currently in Mysuru, has associated with a couple of friends to come up with a script. "I am working on a script with Rajni Mysore Chamaraj, a director from Canada. She holds a master's degree in filmmaking from New York Film Academy, and has won awards for her short films - *The Day I Met Joshua*, and *Finding Home*. A group of us incldiuing Keerthi is coming up with a script which is still in the development stage," says Roshni, adding, "I will be also be acting in the story, the rest of the casting and technical details will be decided later," she says.

Roshni Prakash

Dithee, SUMITRA BHAVE'S FINAL FILM TO PREMIER ON SONYLIV



CE FEATURES

Filmmaker Sumitra Bhave's final directorial venture, the Marathi-film *Dithee*, will be posthumously released on the streaming platform SonyLIV on May 21.

A noted name in Marathi cinema, Sumitra Bhave is known for Doghi, Dahavi Fa, Vastupurush, Devrai, Astu, and Kaasav, all of which she co-wrote and co-directed with Sunil Sukthankar. The duo's films have won several international and national accolades, including National Film Awards, over the years.

Dithee stars Amruta Subhash, who rose to prominence with *Vihir, Killa, Gully Boy,* and the second season of *Sacred Games*, in the lead role, and tells the story of an ironsmith who has to come to terms with the sudden death of her son.

Sumitra, whose last release *Kaasav* won the Golden Lotus Award at the National Film Awards in 2017, breathed her last in April this year.

KAASHVIE NAIR'S FILM, LED BY ARJUN KAPOOR AND NEENA GUPTA, HAS NO EMOTIONAL THRUST BEHIND ITS PLOT

Cross-border comedy can't raise a smile

SARDAR KA GRANDSON

Directed by: Kaashvie Nair

Cast: Arjun Kapoor, Neena Gupta, Rakul Preet Singh, Soni Razdan, Kanwaljit Singh, Mahika Patiyal

Streaming on: Netflix

SHILAJIT MITRA

Comedies with absurd premises must work twice as hard to keep us hooked. If you're going to rest it all on emotion — as Robert Zemeckis does in the West — then at least those individual chords should ring out. Otherwise, it just feels like a farce. This is the problem with *Sardar Ka Grandson*, a film with an ambitiously mad plot but little else to back it up.

It's also a film trying the impossible: making a comic lead out of Arjun Kapoor. After 2017's *Mubarakan* and 2018's *Namaste England*, this is the third time he's playing a boisterous Punjabi lad on screen. Arjun's last film in theatres, *Sandeep Aur Pinky Faraar*, leaned cleverly into his dour and reticent qualities. This is the only mode he seems to know. To put him on a wrecking ball in Lahore is probably as bad an idea as asking Ranveer Singh to dress down.

RATING 2/5

Arjun plays Amreek, an LA bloke who moves back to Punjab to be with his family. His grandmother, 90-year-old Sardar (Neena Gupta), is reeling from a tumour. She's a blast all the same — one of the running gags involves her reminding people to be nice to her, so she can write them into her will. Sardar announces that, before dying, she wants to see her old home in Lahore. The Pakistan High Commission rejects her visa application, at which point Amreek, working his empty head, comes up with a plan.

Using hydraulic jacks and a truck, he plans to move the entire structure to India. It's a ridiculous idea, so much so that you can see director Kaashvie Nair and co-writer Anuja Chauhan scrambling to give some explanation. Amreek watches YouTube videos on structural relocation; his fiancée, Radha (Rakul Preet Singh), who runs a transport service, flies down to help him. Yet engineering isn't the problem here — the bigger question is of setting. Why would India and Pakistan, never on best terms and certainly not in the last five years, agree to such a move? The film struggles to explain. Instead, it slaps us with the same 'Indian man gone viral' montage familiar from Bajrangi Bhaijaan.

The 2015 Salman Khan movie is not the only point of reference. *Sardar Ka Grandson* often resembles Sameer Sharma's delightful Punjab-set comedy *Luv Shuv Tey Chicken Khurana*. In both films, there's an emigrant Punjabi boy who is compelled to return home. Both have huge casts — here, it's Kanwaljit Singh and Soni Razdan as Amreek's parents, Divya Seth as his aunt, and Ravjeet Singh and Mahika Patiyal (often funny) as his cousins. Even the flashbacks — with Aditi Rao Hydari as young Sardar and John Abraham as her late husband — seem based on an idea from the 2012 film. But they lack the magical charm of Luv Shuv; the writing is bland and colourless, and, apart from a scene where Amreek crosses the border and imagines Sardar passing him, we feel no pull between past and present.

Kumud Mishra turns up in the Pakistan portions and lends the film some edge. Amreek's home, back in Amritsar, has upturned charpais — presumably out of use in winter. Neena Gupta undercuts Sardar's wholesomeness with a sly tongue. Sardar had dropped Amreek as a child, a funny explanation for his doltish manners. The indoor scenes are frequently amusing; anything outside will put you to sleep. I was discomfited by the crowded set-pieces, and a pointed shot of a hospital façade. Is this all a corona advisory?